

Japan Cosmetic Center Statement of Founding Purpose

The need to balance industrial development and environmental protection is an issue being faced by the entire world, and the imperative of creating sustainable regional communities demands the creation of environmentally friendly businesses that utilize regional resources by stimulating exchanges among diverse human resources and bringing together technologies as well as the development of those businesses in the global market.

Located in northern Kyushu and bordering the majestic Genkai Sea to the north, Saga Prefecture is geographically closer to East Asia than any other Japanese prefecture. The prefecture is also home to some of Japan's most beautiful natural spots, including the Uwaba Plateau and the Saga Plain.

The city of Karatsu and the town of Genkai in northwestern Saga take advantage of the lush regional environment to cultivate food and medicinal plants, and they are also home to vibrant research being carried out in partnership with universities.

In addition to the development of a uniquely local pharmaceutical industry using the prefecture's traditional medicinal herbs, Karatsu has seen a number of cosmetics companies establish facilities there in recent years.

In particular, the Cosmetic Valley Association of France entered into a partnership and cooperation agreement with the City of Karatsu in April 2013 in an effort to make the region, which offers extensive agricultural, forestry, and fishery products as well as a base for the cosmetics industry, a strategic point for access to the rapidly growing Asian market.

Perceiving in these developments an excellent opportunity for growth, we will bring businesses in the cosmetics industry and associated employment opportunities to Saga Prefecture, particularly to the city of Karatsu and the town of Genkai, and to communities throughout northern Kyushu by working actively to put in place a business environment suited to the cosmetics sector through partnership among industry, academia, and government; to foster business exchanges with groups and companies in France and other countries; to develop global markets, particularly in Asia; to conduct research into natural raw materials; and to develop high-quality products.

Japan Cosmetic Center (JCC) was established with a membership consisting of affiliated companies, producers, universities and other research institutions, government agencies, and economic groups and other support institutions in order to implement the Karatsu Cosmetic Initiative, which is dedicated to building a people- and environment-friendly international cluster of cosmetics businesses that pair local resources with exceptional technologies.

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