

First Plenary Session of International High-Speed Rail Association (IHRA)

The first plenary session of the IHRA was held at Hotel Okura Tokyo on Thursday, April 10, 2014.

○ Attendees

IHRA Officers:

Chairman Shukuri, Vice Chairman Patterson,
Director & Technical Advisory Board (TAB) Member Sekiji, Director Kosuge,
Director & TAB Member Yoshie, Director & TAB Member Aoyagi, Director Liu,
Auditor Hikasa, and Auditor Tsujimoto

Senior Advisory Board (“SAB”):

SAB Chairman Kasai, Board Member Ishihara, Board Member Nye,
Board Member Sasaki, Board Member Singh, and Board Member Tomita

Technical Advisory Board (“TAB”):

TAB Chairman Morimura, Board Member Aziz (Observer),
Board Member Chua (Observer), Board Member Jack, Board Member Jeng,
Board Member Kelterborn, and Board Member Taylor

○ Synopsis

At the Plenary Session, the IHRA’s purpose, officers, organization, SAB members & action policy, as well as the TAB members & action policy were announced. Then, TAB Chairman Morimura gave a presentation on the principle of “Crash Avoidance,” a proposition significant for IHRA’s activities (See the material “Crash Avoidance Principles Overview”).

Following the presentation, attendees offered their comments about the approach to safety and maintenance methods of high-speed rail founded on the principle of crash avoidance. It was also suggested the IHRA should communicate that a dedicated track for high-speed passenger rail is key in situations where future high-speed rail systems are to be constructed.

IHRA Plenary Session (April 10, 2014)

In addition, presentations were also given showing the operations of high-speed rail operators, which have based their systems on the principle of crash avoidance (JR Central, JR West, JR East, JR Kyushu, and THSRC). At the end of the meeting, it was confirmed that the “IHRA will promote activities in the future so as to achieve the association’s purpose of extending safe high-speed rail throughout the world by sharing the knowledge and experience of these five operators of crash avoidance-based high-speed rail with countries planning to construct high-speed rail.”

○ Scenes of the Plenary Session

