



PRESS RELEASE

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LT. GOV. CARLOS LOPEZ-CANTERA TO OFFICIALLY LEAD FLORIDA DELEGATION TO SEUS/JAPAN JOINT MEETING IN BIRMINGHAM

Miami, Florida – October 13, 2015 --- Florida Delegation, Southeast U.S./Japan Association, Inc. (SEUS/Japan) is pleased to announce that Florida Lt. Governor Carlos Lopez-Cantera will officially lead the Florida Delegation to this year's Annual Joint Meeting of Japan U.S./Southeast and Southeast U.S./Japan Associations to be held in Birmingham, Alabama on November 15-17, 2015. This year's conference marks the 38th Annual Joint Meeting of the Associations, and will be held at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel. The theme of this year's joint meeting is "Initiative For A Sustainable Future—Through Continuous Innovation".

Top officials of each of the seven Southeast member states will participate and head their respective state delegations. In addition to the SEUS member state heads of delegation, senior officials of Japan are expected to attend and total attendance is projected at approximately 400-500 participants. Mr. Tadashi Okamura, Advisor to the Board of Toshiba Corporation, will serve as the meeting's Japan-U.S. Southeast Delegation Leader and co-chair, and will lead the Japan delegation of some 100-120 members. Mr. O. B. Grayson Hall, Jr., Chairman, President and CEO of Regions Financial Corporation, will serve as the meeting's private sector SEUS chairman.

"Lt. Governor Carlos Lopez-Cantera has confirmed that he will officially lead the Florida Delegation of top economic development and business leaders from throughout Florida, and represent the state at the SEUS/Japan joint meeting this year," said Florida Delegation Executive Director, Dave Woodward. "This important annual joint meeting program with the Japan-U.S. Southeast Association and the six other SEUS member states affords delegates a special opportunity to renew, expand and develop business and friendship ties with Japan's top business and economic development leaders, and for SEUS/JAPAN to further its mission, (see below)," he added.

This year's SEUS/Japan Joint Meeting program will feature keynote remarks by Dr. Condoleezza Rice, the 66th U.S. Secretary of State (a native of Birmingham). His Excellency, Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the U.S., will deliver the keynote remarks at the luncheon on November 16, and Ambassador Andrew Young, former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., will serve as the capstone speaker on November 17.

This year's conference program will include sessions on: "Profiting from the New Environmental Landscape "and "Japan and SEUS: Strategic Anchors for Global Market Access." There will also be an invitational golf tournament, optional sightseeing tours, receptions and special entertainment. The Florida Delegation will hold its annual meeting of members in conjunction with the joint meeting on the afternoon of November 15, immediately prior to a welcome reception for all participating Japan and SEUS delegates.

The mission of SEUS/Japan is to promote ties of trade, investment, education, tourism and friendly relations between Florida and Japan, respectively, and the six other southeastern member states (AL, GA, MS, NC, SC, and TN). SEUS/JAPAN has individual, NPO and corporate membership programs open to all individuals, businesses and organizations interested in supporting its mission and participating in this important annual event. SEUS/Japan works in close partnership with the Governor's office, Enterprise Florida, and other economic development organizations and partners throughout Florida to carry out the mission.

Regular registration will close October 23, so anyone interested in participating as a Florida delegate to this year's joint meeting is urged to contact SEUS/JAPAN's executive office, at the number or e-mail address shown herein to request a registration form. Pre-registration and more information is also available at the organization's website: www.fl-seusjapan.org.

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