Title
Minamata’s achievements and issues in international cooperation

Summary
1. International cooperation in Minamata
   - 1992: Receiving trainees and organization of international conference through national, prefectural and local level
   - 1998: Organization of seminar on enlightening people about Minamata Disease (Asia)
   - 2000: Receipt of JICA trainees (Asia)
   - 2002: JICA technical cooperation at the grassroots level programme (Brazil)
   - 2003: Participation in JBIC programme (promotion of citizen participation support seminar) (Philippines)
2. Achievements
   - Promotion of understanding of Minamata Disease (information dissemination)
   - Improvement of regional image of Minamata
   - Improvement of environmental understanding of residents (residents as lecturers)
   - Hints towards the development of new activities and actions
3. Issues
   - Difficult to grasp to what extent training contents are being used
   - No linkages or development after conclusion of trainings
   - Lack of English-speaking lecturers
4. Practical application of international support schemes
   - Necessary to have merits for both supporting and supported sides
   - Support should agree to the basic policies of both sides
5. Expectations to international organizations
   - Understand the necessity and continuance of international support schemes
   - Understand the activities of local governments