

TOKYO MARATHON 2009 ～ Full of Smile and Feeling of Accomplishment ～

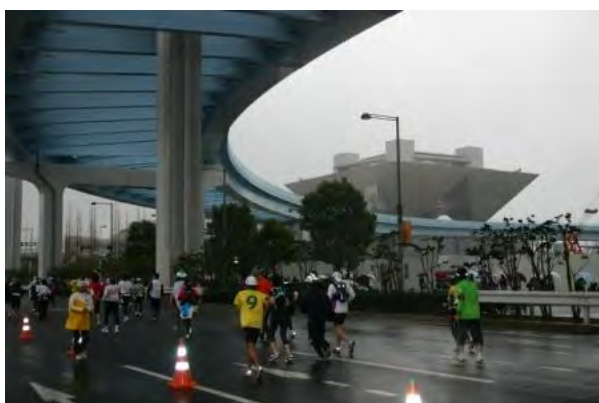
“TOKYO MARATHON 2009” organized by Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Japan Association of Athletics Federations was held on March 22nd (Sun). The last two times were held in February, but this year it was held in March.

Strong wind was blowing, but just past 9 o'clock, 35,000 runners started from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government building. 42.195km runners ran through Imperial Palace, Tokyo Tower, Ginza, Asakusa and headed for the Finish Gate set up at Tokyo Big Sight.

Salim KIPSANG of Kenya finished first, and Kazuhiro MAEDA came in second as the top of Japanese runners. In the women's race, Mizuho NASUKAWA cruised to victory. Supporter's stand was set up at Tokyo Big Sight and runners with completion just before their eyes were cheered and applauded heartily. It started to rain in the afternoon and condition was not so good, but about 30,000 runners passed the finish gate with smile on their face.

Top runners of Japan and abroad, citizen runners, wheelchair participants, volunteers, supporters, and organizers shared the enjoyment of marathon, and it was exactly “a day Tokyo became one.”

Also, prior to the day of the marathon, “TOKYO MARATHON EXPO 2009” was held from 19th (Thu.) to 21st (Sat.) at Tokyo Big Sight. 84,000 people, the highest ever, visited the EXPO. The event added the exciting mood by sale of marathon related items and official goods and also by entertainment such as music performances.



Goal is just ahead !



TOKYO MARATHON EXPO 2009