

The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Report

October 6th(Wed)-8th(Fri), 2010, Nara, Japan



The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress, Nara, Japan

Report

CONTENTS

Documentary Photography	1
Message	10
Congratulatory Address	12
Outline of Program	14
Schedule	15
Registered delegation members of participating local and regional governments	16
Summary of Opening Ceremony and Plenary Session	22
The East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter	25
The First Joint Statement	28
Summary of Regional Report Theme—1	30
[1.Anhui Province /2.Henan Province]	31
[3.Shaanxi Province /4.Yangzhou City]	32
[5.Niigata City /6.Chungcheongnam-do Province]	33
[7.Jeollanam-do Province /8.Gyeongju City]	34
[9.Aomori Prefecture /10.Yamagata Prefecture]	35
[11.Varanasi City /12.Province of Yogyakarta Special Region]	36
[13.Seosan City /14.Buyeo County]	37
[15.Fukui Prefecture /16.Shimane Prefecture]	38
[Comment 1 Fukushima Prefecture / Comment 2 Kochi Prefecture / Summary]	39
Summary of Regional Report Theme—2	40
[Keynote Lecture]	41
[1.Kumamoto Prefecture /2.Kashihara City]	42
[3.Gyeongsangbuk-do Province /4.Nara Prefecture]	43
[Discussion]	44
[Summary]	46
Summary of Commemorative Lectures	48
[Lecture I]	49
[Lecture II]	50

The First East Asia Local and
Regional Government Congress, Nara, Japan
第1回東アジア地方政府会合 報告書

Issued on January, 2011 / 平成 23 年 1 月 発行
Issued / Nara Prefecture / 編集・発行 奈良県

30 Noborioji-cho Nara, Nara, 630-8501 Japan
Tel : +81-742-22-1101 (Nara Prefecture)
+81-742-27-5822 (Anniversary of Nara Heijyo-kyo Capital Association for Commemorative Events of the 1300th Planning Division)
〒630-8501 奈良県奈良市登大路町 30 番地
電話 : 0742-22-1101 (奈良県代表)
0742-27-5822 (奈良県平城遷都 1300 年記念事業推進局企画課)

Documentary Photography / 記録写真



Group photo (October 7, 2010 on the temple grounds of Kofukoji)
集合写真 (2010年10月7日 興福寺境内にて)



Hotel Nikko Nara ~ Reception
ホテル日航奈良～受付

Documentary Photography / 記録写真

Welcome Party / ウェルカムパーティ



Left : Mr. ISHIHARA, Nobuo, Chairman of the Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress
左：東アジア地方政府会合実行委員会委員長 石原信雄

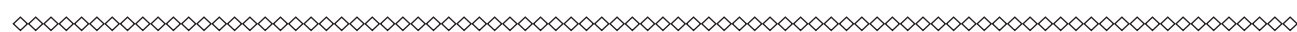
Lower / Presentation of gifts / Toast : Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X, Governor, Province of Yogyakarta Special Region and Mr. ARAI, Shogo, Governor, Nara Prefectural Government
下(記念品贈呈・乾杯)：ジョグジャカルタ特別州知事 Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono Xと奈良県知事 荒井正吾



Opening Ceremony ; Plenary Session / 開会式：全体会議



Press Conference ／記者会見



Tour of Kofukuji Temple ／興福寺視察



Documentary Photography / 記録写真

Lunch / 昼食



Regional Report - 1 / リージョナルレポート 1



Regional Report - 2 / リージョナルレポート 2



Commemorative Lectures / 設立記念講演会



Documentary Photography / 記録写真

Governor's Banquet / 知事招宴



H.E. NGUYEN Phu Binh,
Ambassador of Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam
ベトナム社会主義共和国大使
グエン・フービン



H.E. CHENG, Yonghua,
Ambassador of People's
Republic of China
中華人民共和国大使
程 永華



H.E. Lutfi Muhammad,
Ambassador of Republic of
Indonesia
インドネシア共和国大使
ルトゥフィ・ムハンマド



H.E. SUZUKI, Katsumasa,
Senior Vice Minister, Ministry
of Internal Affairs and
Communications
総務副大臣 鈴木克昌



Mr. KOGA, Nobuaki,
President, Japanese Trade
Union Confederation
日本労働組合総連合会
会長 古賀伸明



Mr. MORISHITA, Shunzo,
Vice Chairman, Kansai
Economic Federation
社団法人関西経済連合会
副会長 森下俊三



H.E. FUYUSHIBA, Tetsuzo, Former Minister of Land,
Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
元国土交通大臣 冬柴鐵三



Mr. DEGUCHI, Takeo,
Chairperson, Nara
Prefectural Assembly
奈良県議会議員 出口武男

Documentary Photography / 記録写真

Excursion / エクスカーション



Yakushiji Temple / 薬師寺

Farewell Party / フェアウェルパーティー



The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Message : Congratulatory Address



Message



Chairman, Steering Committee/
President, Research Institute
for Local Government

Mr. ISHIHARA, Nobuo

The East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress was organized in Nara in 2010, 1,300 years after the Heijo-kyo capital was established in the area.

At this first congress, the 40 local and regional governments from 6 countries participating in full accord with the purpose of the congress adopted the “East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter” that stipulates the operating rules and bylaws of the congress.

I am personally grateful to all of those who provided their cooperation to these ends.

The congress took as its objective to enhance governmental capacity and deepen mutual understanding amongst the local and regional governments of East Asia, as they have been closely tied by history and geography, by having their representatives report on the respective situations and challenges they face, and discuss shared issues.

Having long been touted as the “Age of Asia,” the 21st century has witnessed in its early inception growing cooperation amongst the countries of East Asia in a diversity of fields to note economics, environment, culture and tourism to name a few. This cooperation and collaboration on the state level, as well as multilayered exchanges between local and regional governments should become increasingly important as time goes by. And, there are still many, many undiscovered possibilities of cooperation in East Asia as it basks in the world spotlight.

The joint statement announced at this first congress made public that next year’s congress would also be held in Nara.

Continuing this congress should further the feelings of goodwill and trust between local and regional governments, compliment diplomatic initiatives between states and further contribute to sustainable prosperity and development in East Asia.



Chairman, Steering Committee/
Initial Minister of Culture, Sports
and Tourism, Republic of Korea/
Honorary president, Nara
Prefectural University

Mr. LEE, O Young

The first East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress was held in Nara, Japan with the participation of many persons from Japan and abroad.

With globalization rapidly advancing today, the East Asian region is showing greater presence and its maturity has come to the attention of many.

Amidst the growing importance of cooperation in East Asia, this congress is of great significance for how it gathers local and regional governments under one roof to deepen their mutual understanding of one another while respecting the inherent diversity of the respective regions.

This first congress was attended by 40 governments from 6 countries, including 18 from Japan, 10 from China, 8 from Korea, 2 from Viet Nam and 1 each from Indonesia and the Philippines. And now they are Members of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress.

This congress is seen as a forerunner to a new paradigm in East Asia for the opportunity it gives governments to learn and implement solutions to common issues of the region via various formats of exchange and the flexible mindset of a region that seeks coprosperity through respect for the views of others.

It has been said that “the opposite of the truth is forgetfulness, not a lie.” It means that something “genuine” and “authentic” is never forgotten.

I am confident that this East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress born in Nara in 2010 will evolve into a “genuine” congress and a foundation for the future development of East Asia.

In closing, I wish to express my gratitude to everyone for your cooperation.



Director-General of the Secretariat,
Steering Committee/
Governor, Nara Prefectural Government

Mr. ARAI, Shogo

I would like to report that, gracious to the cooperation of many persons, the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress successfully completed a full schedule of activities this October 2010, and I wish to express my deep gratitude for that cooperation.

A wide array of events have been staged across Nara Prefecture to fete the 1,300th anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo capital. As one of those events, the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress began with deep feelings of appreciation towards the countries of East Asia, for it was through exchange with them that many of the tangible and intangible heritages that lie at the foundation of “nation-building” came to be.

With international exchange active throughout the world, this congress advocated the roles of “local societies” as a separate important layer of global and national societies.

At the Meeting of Advocates to Establish the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress held in October 2009, 19 local governments in China, Korea and Japan gathered and agreed to the purport of the congress.

At the first congress of 2010, the “East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter” that stipulated the rules of the congress was adopted with the additional consensus of Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

The congress was a multilateral meeting of more than just two parties. This format was believed better than a bilateral face-off because it would promote a more constructively attitude to share topics and recognize commonalties rather than focusing on conflicting points.

After the plenary session, participating governments reported on their respective situations and challenges, and active discussions ensued under the themes of “Conservation of cultural heritage and tourism promotion” and “Next-generation exchange.”

To commemorate the inception of this congress, lectures were given by Mr. LEE, O Young and Mr. OKAMOTO, Yukio, which were highly heralded by an audience of the general public.

I ask all of those associated with the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress for your continued support and cooperation in making future congresses even more successful.

Congratulatory Address

Message from the Prime Minister of Japan

(Addressing the first meeting of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress as
a commemorative event of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital)

I would like to offer my congratulations regarding the opening of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress as one of the main programs of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital, receiving a large number of participants from local and regional governments of East Asian countries. My profound respect goes to all the participants in the Congress as well as to those who have devoted considerable efforts to its establishment, not forgetting the realization of last year's Meeting of Advocates.

As economic globalization advances, it is expected that East Asia will play an increasingly significant role as a center of growth open to the world. Therefore, the importance of close relationships among nations in East Asia will be constantly increasing in various fields including politics, economy and culture. This applies not only at the national government level, but also at the level of regional government.

It is incredibly significant and suitable that delegates from regional governments in East Asia gather together in Nara, where the capital Heijo-kyo was placed 1300 years ago, in order to discuss the issues we face and promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

I sincerely wish that the establishment of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress and its meetings hereafter will form a foundation for the further development of East Asia, and furthermore, for world peace and prosperity.

October 7, 2010

Naoto KAN
Prime Minister of Japan

The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Outline of Program



Outline of Program

Purpose of the Congress

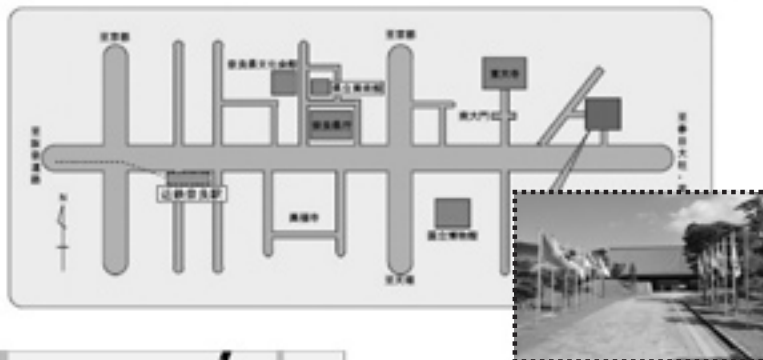
We hereby hold the first East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress in commemoration of the 1300th anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital upon the adoption of the “Nara declaration” in the Meeting of Advocates held in 2009. The purpose of the Congress is to build a foundation of peace and prosperity of our nation and East Asia through local regions conducting exchange and establishing continuous cooperative relations. On the basis of 2009 Meeting of Advocates for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress, we adopt the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter and hereby establish the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress.

Overview

Host : Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress;
Nara Prefecture

Dates : October 6 (Wed.) to October 8 (Fri.), 2010

Venues : Nara City; Nara Prefectural New Public Hall and Hotel Nikko Nara



Hotel Nikko Nara



Nara Prefectural New Public Hall



Nara Royal Hotel



Charter Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■China : Jiangsu Prov.*/Anhui Prov./Henan Prov./Shaanxi Prov./Gansu Prov.*/Xi'an City*/Luoyang City*/Yangzhou City/Huangshan City*/Dunhuang City ■Indonesia : Province of Yogyakarta Special Region ■Philippines : Aurora Prov. ■Korea : Gyeonggi-do Prov./Chungcheongnam-do Prov./Gongju City/Seosan City/Buyeo County/Jeollanam-do Prov./Gyeongsangbuk-do Prov./Gyeongju City ■Viet Nam : Quang Nam Prov.*/Hoi an City* ■Japan : Aomori Pref./Yamagata Pref./Fukushima Pref./Niigata Pref./Toyama Pref./Fukui Pref./Gifu Pref./Shizuoka Pref./Mie Pref./Shimane Pref./Kochi Pref./Kumamoto Pref./Nara Pref./Niigata City/Nara City/Tenri City/Kashihara City/Asuka Village
Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■India : Varanasi City <p>*apologies for absence</p>

Schedule

Date	Time	Program		Venue
		Delegation leader/Steering Committee	Retinue member	
October 6 (Wed.)	18 : 00 ~ 20 : 00	■Welcome party (Buffet)		Nara Prefectural New Public Hall 1st Floor Garden and Lobby
Date	Time	Delegation leader/Chairman of Steering Committee	Retinue member/Steering Committee/ Observer	Venue
October 7 (Thu.)	8 : 40 ~ 9 : 45	■Opening ceremony; Plenary session		Hotel Nikko Nara 4th Floor Hiten
	9 : 55 ~ 10 : 55	■Press conference		Hotel Nikko Nara 4th Floor Hiten
	11 : 40 ~ 11 : 55	■Commemorative photo session		Kofukuji Temple
	12 : 00 ~ 12 : 30	■Tour of Kofukuji Temple		
	12 : 50 ~ 13 : 50	■Lunch	■Lunch	Delegation leaders: Aoyagi Restaurant, New Public Hall 1st Floor Retinue: Queen Alice Observer: Conference Room #2 in New Public Hall 2nd Floor
	14 : 00 ~ 16 : 40	■Theme-specific Regional Report (2 themes in 2 halls held concurrently) 1. Conservation of cultural heritage and tourism promotion Facilitator: Mr. MUTO, Hiroshi (Vice-Commissioner, Japan Tourism Agency) 2. Next-generation exchange Facilitator: Mr. TANINO, Sakutaro (Vice Chairman, Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress)		Nara Prefectural New Public Hall 2nd Floor (1) Reception Hall (2) Meeting Rooms 3 & 4
	17 : 00 ~ 18 : 30	■Commemorative Lectures ※Open to the general public (advance registration required) ◆Commemorative Lecture I (17:00 ~ 17:40) Mr. OKAMOTO, Yukio (Representative Executive, Okamoto Associates, Inc.) ◆Commemorative Lecture II (17:50 ~ 18:30) Mr. LEE, O Young (Chairman, Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress)		Nara Prefectural New Public Hall 1st Floor Noh Hall
	19 : 30 ~ 21 : 30	■Governor’s banquet (formal dinner)		Hotel Nikko Nara 4th Floor Hiten
Date	Time	Delegation leader	Retinue member	Venue
October 8 (Fri.)	10 : 20 ~ 12 : 05	■Commemorative Ceremony of the 1300 th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital		Front Courtyard of Daigoku-den, Nara Heijo Palace Site
	12 : 30 ~ 13 : 30		■Lunch	Delegation Leaders: Hotel Nikko Nara Retinue: Nara Royal Hotel
	14 : 00 ~ 15 : 30	■Commemorative Reception of the 1300 th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital	■Excursion ※13:45 ~ 15:30	Delegation leaders: Hotel Nikko Nara 4th Floor "Hiten" Retinue: Heijo-kyo Site
	16 : 10 ~ 17 : 10	■Excursion		Yakushiji Temple
	18 : 30 ~ 20 : 00	■Farewell party (formal dinner)		Cu-Cal (In Nara Park)

Registered delegation members of participating local and regional governments

People's Republic of China

As of October 8, 2010

Name	Organization
Anhui Province	
LU, Youqin	Vice Deputy, Anhui Provincial Foreign Affairs Office
HUANG, Yuhua	Director, Anhui Provincial Foreign Affairs Office
CHENG, Feisheng	Director, Anhui Provincial Foreign Affairs Office
JIANG, Yonghong	Interpreter, Anhui Provincial Foreign Affairs Office
SUN, Kangda	Vice Deputy, JiuHua Mountain Managing Committee
WU, Qin	Interperter, Anhui Provincial Foreign Affairs Office
Henan Province	
FENG, Yong Chen	Director-General, Foreign Affairs Office, Henan Province
WANG, Zi Jie	Director, Asia & Africa Division of Foreign Affairs Office, Henan Province
QU, Peng Fei	Director, Foreign Affairs Office, Henan Province
WANG, Zhi Wei	Director, Foreign Affairs Office, Henan Province
Shaanxi Province	
SHI, Jiansheng	Deputy Secretary General, Shaanxi Provincial Government
KAN, Kaipei	Deputy Director General, Foreign Affairs Office, Shaanxi Provincial Government
TIAN, Zhonglin	Director General, Office Research, Shaanxi Provincial Government
WANG, Shihong	Director, Shaanxi Provincial Tourism Administration Bureau
KONG, Yu	Director, Shaanxi Provincial State Cultural Relics Bureau
HUANG, Baozhong	Deputy Director / Interpreter, Foreign Affairs Office, Shaanxi Provincial Government
Yangzhou City	
DENG, Qing	Director, Foreign Affairs Office of Yangzhou Municipal People's Government
GU, Feng	Deputy Director, Yangzhou Municipal Bureau of Cultural Relics
WANG, Yuqin	Division Chief / Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Division, Foreign Affairs Office of Yangzhou Municipal People's Government
Dunhuang City	
MA, Shilin	Mayor, Dunhuang Municipal Government
LI, Xinmin	The Chief of the Bureau, Dunhuang Travel Bureau
PAN, Youjun	General Manager, Dunhuang Airport
CAI, Wenbin	Vice Director, Foreign Affairs Office, Dunhuang Municipal People's Government

Republic of India

Name	Organization
Varanasi City (Guest)	
SINGH, Kaushalendra	Mayor, Nagar Nigam Varanasi
SINGH, Sachchidanand	Additional Municipal Commissioner, VARANASI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Republic of Indonesia

Name	Organization
Province of Yogyakarta Special Region	
Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X	Governor, Yogyakarta Special Region
Tavip Agus Rayanto	Assistant, Regional Secretary in the field of Governance and Social Welfare, Yogyakarta Special Region
Tazbir	Head, Tourism Department, Yogyakarta Special Region
Djoko Dwiyanto	Head, Culture Department, Yogyakarta Special Region
Heru Suroso	Head, Cooperation Division, BKPM DIY, Yogyakarta Special Region
Imam Pratanadi	Head, International Cooperation Subdivision, BKPM DIY, Yogyakarta Special Region

Republic of the Philippine

Name	Organization
Aurora Province	
CASTILLO, Bellaflor Angara	Governor, Provincial Government of Aurora
ANGARA, Arturo Javier	Mayor, Municipal Government of Baler
TOLENTINO, Reynante Amansec	Mayor, Municipal Government of Dipaculao
BITONG, Ariel Saturno	Mayor, Municipal Government of Maria Aurora
BRIONES, Victorio Bagawisan	Mayor, Municipal Government of Dilasag
TUZON, Guy Alipio Agustin	Executive Officer, Provincial Cooperatives Officer, Investment Promotion Officer, Provincial Government of Aurora
TEH, Luisito Gonzales	Provincial Health Officer II, Provincial Government of Aurora
TOLENTINO, Rodante Angara	Provincial Engineer, Provincial Government of Aurora
TOMBOC, Raul Gabatin	Provincial Health Officer I, Provincial Government of Aurora
CLEMENTE, Norma Reopta	Provincial Budget Officer, Provincial Government of Aurora

Republic of Korea

Name	Organization
Gyeonggi-do Province	
BANG, Ki Sung	Vice Governor, GyeongGi do
CHOI, Chong Chin	Assistant Director, GyeongGi do
LEE, Gwan Hang	Project Manager, GyeongGi do
KIM, Nam Kuk	Project Manager, GyeongGi do
Chungcheongnam-do Province	
GOO, Bohn Choong	Vice Governor, Chungcheongnam-do Province
HONG, Man Pyo	Manager, Chungcheongnam-do Province
CHOI, Byeong In	Assistant Manager, Chungcheongnam-do Province
LEE, Eon Woo	Accompanying Secretary, Chungcheongnam-do Province
HWANG, Eun Seong	Assistant Manager, Chungcheongnam-do Province
Gongju City	
SHIN, Hong Hyun	Citizen Director, Gongju City
WOO, Yeong Kil	Member, A municipal of the Gongju City Council
BANG, Sung Man	President, Federation of Village Foreman, Gongju City
HWANG, Hyeon Ho	Staff, External Cooperation Section, Gongju City
JUNG, Ha Na	Interpreter, Gongju City
Seosan City	
LEE, Wan Seob	Deputy Mayor, Seosan City
KIM, Jun Hwan	Secretary to the Deputy Mayor, Seosan City
LEE, Beom Sin	Manager, International Exchanges, Seosan City
JANG, Soo Mi	Staff (Interpreter), Seosan City
Buyeo County	
LEE, Yong Woo	County Executive, Buyeo County
JUNG, Do Gi	Director, Administrative Support Division, Buyeo County Office
KIM, Jin Goo	Assistant director, Home Affairs & Development Section, Buyeo County Office
KIM, Hyeong Mi	Officer, Education Affairs, Buyeo County Office
LIM, Yeong Cheol	Interpreter, Buyeo County Office
Jeollanam-do Province	
LEE, Jong-Bum	Assistant Governor, Jeollanam-do
LHO, Il Hwan	Manager, JeollaNam-do Osaka Trade Office
PARK, Soon Im	Officer, Policy & Planning Division, International Relations Section, Jeollanam-do
Gyeongsangbuk-do Province	
SON, Se Joo	Ambassador Vice Governor, Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do
MIN, Kyung Su	Deputy Director, International Events Support, Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do
BAK, Bong Hwan	Staff, Division of International Relations & Trade, Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do
LEE, Joung Ah	Staff, Division of International Relations & Trade, Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do
Gyeongju City	
LEE, Tae Hyun	Vice Mayor, City of Gyeongju
KIM, Jin Hee	Chief, Cultural Asset Division, City of Gyeongju
LIM, Young Sik	International Affairs Chief, Culture & Tourism Division, City of Gyeongju
BAEK, Sun Ah	PR Officer of Gyeongju in Japan, City of Gyeongju

Registered delegation members of participating local and regional governments

JAPAN

Name	Organization
Aomori Prefecture	
MIMURA, Shingo	Governor, Aomori Prefectural Government
HIRAMATSU, Takeshi	Secretary Governor, Secretarial Division, Department of General Affairs, Aomori Prefectural Government
SHIBUTANI, Yoshihito	Deputy Director General, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor, Aomori Prefectural Government
KOSAKA, Kan	Director, International Relations Division, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor, Aomori Prefectural Government
SATO, Hajime	Executive Senior Chief, International Relations Division, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor, Aomori Prefectural Government
Yamagata Prefecture	
MURAKAMI, Kenichi	Director General, Tourism and Exchange Bureau, Commerce, Industry and Tourism Department, Yamagata Prefecture
NAGAI, Takeshi	Manager, Tourism and Exchange Bureau, Commerce, Industry and Tourism Department, Yamagata Prefecture
SHIMANUKI, Makoto	Director, Osaka Branch Office, Yamagata Prefecture
Fukushima Prefecture	
UCHIBORI, Masao	Vice Governor, Fukushima Prefectural Government
MASUDA, Yuichiro	Director, Planning & Coordination Division, Planning & Coordination Department, Fukushima Prefectural Government
SUZUKI, Toshio	Director, Osaka Office, Fukushima Prefectural Government
NIITA, Satoru	Senior Staff, Secretariat, Governor's Policy Department, Fukushima Prefectural Government
FUJITA, Kazuhiko	Senior Staff, Planning & Coordination Division, Planning & Coordination Department, Fukushima Prefectural Government
Niigata Prefecture	
SAITO, Mitsuo	Director, Niigata Prefecture Osaka Office, Niigata Prefectural Government
MAEDA, Tetsuya	Senior Staff, Governor's Policy Bureau, International Affairs Division, Niigata Prefectural Government
Toyama Prefecture	
IGARASHI, Nobuo	Director-General, Tourism & Region Promotion Bureau, Toyama Prefectural Government
MIYAZAKI, Ichiro	Assistant Director, Tourism Division, Toyama Prefectural Government
FUJII, Takatsugu	Staff Member, International Affairs & Japan Sea Region Policy Division, Toyama Prefectural Government
Fukui Prefecture	
NISHIKAWA, Issei	Governor, Fukui Prefecture
KURIYAMA, Shinji	Deputy Director, Policy Promotion Division, Department of General Policy, Fukui Prefecture
SHISHIHARA, Tomohiro	Group Manager, Division of Citizens' Services Fukui Prefecture
HATTORI, Kazue	Group Manager, Policy Promotion Division, Department of General Policy, Fukui Prefecture
TANAKA, Kiyoshi	Director, Fukui Prefectural Government Osaka Office
Gifu Prefecture	
FURUTA, Tsunemichi	Managing Director, Gifu International Center
KIMURA, Manabu	Chief Officer, International Affairs Division, Department of Prefectural Policy Planning, Gifu Prefectural Government
Shizuoka Prefecture	
KAWAKATSU, Heita	Governor, Shizuoka Prefectural Government
KURODA, Akinobu	Office Director, Department of Strategic Planning and Public Relations, Secretarial Office, Shizuoka Prefectural Government
IWAKI, Tetsuo	Office Director, Department of Culture and Tourism, International Affairs Office, Shizuoka Prefectural Government
Mie Prefecture	
NORO, Akihiko	Governor, Mie Prefectural Government
MURAKAMI, Wataru	Director, Policy Department, Planning Office, Mie Prefectural Government
MORI, Takahiro	Senior Staff, Policy Department, Planning Office, Mie Prefectural Government
FUJITA, Yuichi	Senior Staff, Policy Department, Planning Office, Mie Prefectural Government
KATAYAMA, Koji	Senior Staff, Policy Department, Governor's Office, Mie Prefectural Government
ODA, Koji	Chief of Service Staff, Policy Department, Governor's Office, Mie Prefectural Government
Shimane Prefecture	
MIZOGUCHI, Zembee	Governor, Shimane Prefectural Government
MEZUKI, Osamu	Director, Osaka Office, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor, Shimane Prefectural Government
YAMANA, Kaname	Director, Culture and International Affairs Division, Department of Environment and Civic Affairs, Shimane Prefectural Government
HIRATA, Seiji	Planning Supervisor, Tourism Promotion Division, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor, Shimane Prefectural Government
HONDA, Katsumi	Secretariat Group Leader, Secretariat Division, Policy Planning Bureau, Shimane Prefectural Government
KAWAMOTO, Yukari	International Affairs Group Leader, Culture and International Affairs Division, Department of Environment and Civic Affairs, Shimane Prefectural Government
MISHIMA, Ko	Senior Clerk, Culture and International Affairs Division, Department of Environment and Civic Affairs, Shimane Prefectural Government
MEISHO, Norihisa	Senior Clerk, Tourism Promotion Division, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor, Shimane Prefectural Government

Name	Organization
Kochi Prefecture	
OZAKI, Masanao	Governor, Kochi Prefectural Government
YAMAJI, Kazu	Deputy Director, Secretariat Division, Kochi Prefectural Government
SAWATANI, Hiroko	Staff, Culture and International Affairs Division, Kochi Prefectural Government
Kumamoto Prefecture	
KABASHIMA, Ikuo	Governor, Kumamoto Prefectural Government
MATSUNAGA, Kizuku	Deputy-Director, Tourism and International Exchange Division, Kumamoto Prefectural Government
NAGATA, Kiyomichi	Assistant Deputy Director, Office of the Governor, Kumamoto Prefectural Government
NAKASHIMA, Tsuyoshi	Assistant Deputy Director, Secretariat Division, Kumamoto Prefectural Government
FUKUNAGA, Kimihiko	Assistant Deputy Director, Planning Division, Kumamoto Prefectural Government
Nara Prefecture	
ARAI, Shogo	Governor, Nara Prefectural Government
KUBOTA, Osamu	Vice Governor, Nara Prefectural Government
HIRONO, Takanobu	Director General, Department for Commemorative Events of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital, Nara Prefectural Government
TERADA, Yutaka	Deputy Director General, Department for Commemorative Events of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital, Nara Prefectural Government
NAKAJIMA, Keisuke	Director, Planning Division, Department for Commemorative Events of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital, Nara Prefectural Government
Niigata City	
SHINODA, Akira	Mayor, City of Niigata
SEKIKAWA, Takehiko	Section Chief, Tourism Policy Division, City of Niigata
KARIYA, Masanori	Section Chief, Cultural Policy Division, City of Niigata
KANEKO, Hiroaki	Section Chief, Foreign Affairs Division, City of Niigata
Nara City	
NAKAGAWA, Gen	Mayor, Nara City
YAMAMOTO, Jirou	Director, Tourism and Economic Affairs Department, Nara City
TATSUMI, Ichirou	Director, Projects Department, Nara City
ARAKI, Keiko	Director, General Education Department, Nara City
MORI, Nobuyasu	Director, Tourism Strategy Division, Nara City
Tenri City	
MINAMI, Keisaku	Mayor, Tenri City
FUKUI, Tsuneo	Vice Mayor, Tenri City
FUJITA, Toshifumi	Director, Administration Department, Tenri City
TAKEKABU, Michihiro	Manager, Secretariat Section, Mayor's Office, Tenri City
KAWAKITA, Seiko	Assistant Manager, Secretariat Section, Mayor's Office, Tenri City
Kashihara City	
MORISHITA, Yutaka	Mayor, Kashihara City
NISHIMOTO, Kiyofumi	Special Aide, Kashihara City
OKAZAKI, Masumitsu	Director, Planning and Coordinating Department, Kashihara City
FUJIOKA, Takashi	Deputy Director, Planning and Coordinating Department, Kashihara City
YAMAZAKI, Takahiro	Assistant Manager, Planning Division, Planning and Coordinating Department, Kashihara City
Asuka Village	
SEKI, Yoshikiyo	Mayor, Asuka Village
KUBOTA, Katsuhiko	Section Chief, Administration Section, Asuka Village
URANO, Yoshinori	Assistant Manager, Administration Section, Asuka Village
KITAMURA, Akira	Chief Examiner, Administration Section, Asuka Village

The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Opening Ceremony : Plenary Session



Summary of Opening Ceremony and Plenary Session

At the Opening Ceremony, the local and regional governments and delegation leaders were introduced via video images, after which the chair for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress was selected. At the Plenary Session which followed the Opening Ceremony, the “East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter,” which will serve as the operational rules and regulations of the Congress, and the “First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Joint Statement” were adopted.

- Date and Time : Thursday October 7, 2010, 8:40 – 9:45
- Participants : Participating local and regional governments, Steering Committee, observers (Chinese Consulate-General in Osaka, Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea in Osaka, Consulate-General of the Republic of Indonesia in Osaka, Philippines Consulate-General in Osaka-Kobe, Consulate-General of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Osaka, Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- Venue : Hotel Nikko Nara 4th Floor “Hiten”
- Program of events
 1. Opening
 2. Introduction of participating local and regional governments
 3. Ceremony called to order Mr. ISHIHARA, Nobuo, Chairman, Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

In 710 A.D., blessed with the abundance of wisdom, technology, culture, and civilization from the countries and regions of East Asia, the Heijo-kyo Capital was born as the first capital of Japan. Here in the land of Nara, which celebrates its 1300th anniversary of Heijo-kyo Capital, the local and regional governments of the countries in East Asia with which we have strong ties have come together to share that wisdom. We hereby declare the opening of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress toward a future of peace and prosperity throughout East Asia.

4. Message from the Prime Minister of Japan
5. Introduction of Steering Committee and observer
6. Plenary Session
 - Election of a chairperson
 - Overview and adoption of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter
 - Overview and adoption of the First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Joint Statement
7. Closing (Mr. LEE, O Young, Chairman, Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress)

On this day, 40 local and regional governments from 7 countries in East Asia adopted the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter. This Local and Regional Government Congress, which bases itself on the flexible wisdom of East Asia which aims to co-exist while respecting the views of one another and which strives to find and learn a clue for solving common regional issues from within a wide range of interaction and exchange, is expected to play a pioneering role in generating a new paradigm for East Asia. We look forward to seeing you again here in Nara in 2011.

Summary of deliberations regarding the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter (Draft)

Background of the proposal of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

○Heijo-kyo was a capital whose construction entailed the global standards incorporated through interaction and exchange with China and Korea, as well as the national standards built up in Japan from ancient times. Since Nara was not exposed to the waves of regional change caused by modernization and development, it retains much cultural heritage suggestive of the cultural genes shared by 8th century East Asia. The East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress came into being with participation from a large number of local and regional governments, upon the approval of the Meeting of Advocates held in response to the call from China, Korea, and Japan last year to begin a series of efforts toward the future of East Asia in gratitude for the exchanges with East Asia which took place here in Nara in ages past.

Outline of the Charter

- Preamble: (1) The regions in East Asia need to enhance understanding, cooperation, and partnership while respecting our diversities; (2) To deepen mutual understanding among the diverse communities in East Asia, there must be continuous exchanges covering a wide range of areas; (3) The local and regional governments need to deepen mutual understanding toward the stable development and prosperity of East Asia. Because of our close relationship with local residents, we, the local and regional governments know firsthand the realities and challenges facing our communities, and the candid discussion of such issues will promote true mutual understanding among us, the local and regional governments. Therefore, there is a need for local and regional governments to assemble regularly to update one another on the realities and challenges of our regions, discuss common issues, promote deeper understanding, and explore possibilities for cooperation. By thus convening on a regular basis, we, the local and regional governments can enrich our knowledge, improve our administrative capacities, strengthen friendship and trust amongst ourselves, and furthermore contribute to the stability of relations among nations in East Asia and, ultimately, to the stable development of East Asia as a whole.
- Overall: (Summary) The Congress shall be a forum for mutual learning for members, and shall consist of Members, Special Members, and Guests. The Congress shall have an Executive Committee as its decision-making body and will have its Secretariat in Nara Prefectural Government.
- Article 2: (Objectives) To engage in candid discussion of issues facing the regions in East Asia and promote mutual understanding; to strengthen the administrative capacities of Member Governments to solve the issues facing their respective regions through exchange of views in the Congress.
- Article 3: (Activities) To meet on a regular basis; To provide information to further mutual understanding among Member Governments and promote higher levels of administrative capacities; and to engage in other activities as would help to achieve the objectives of the Congress.
- Article 4: (Membership) The Congress shall consist of Members, Special Members, and Guests. Members of the Congress shall be the local and regional governments which sign the Charter (hereinafter referred to as “Charter Governments”) in the 2010 Congress Meeting and all other local and regional governments which are approved for membership under the Charter in 2011 and beyond. The Charter Governments shall comprise the executive committee and establish a Secretariat to attend to administrative matters.
- Article 5: (Admission) Admission requires endorsement from two or more current Member Governments and unanimous consent of Charter Governments.
- Article 6: (Withdrawal) Members wishing to withdraw are to submit a written notice of withdrawal.
- Article 7: (The Congress Meeting) Congress Meetings shall be held once a year in principle, and shall be called and chaired by the representative of the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting. Congress Meetings shall be held in Nara Prefecture until 2013 to ensure the continuation of the Meetings.
- Article 8: (Executive Committee) The members of the executive committee shall be the Charter Governments which signed the Nara Charter this year. The executive committee shall meet in conjunction with the Congress Meeting, with the chairperson being selected from amongst its members. The executive committee shall determine: (1) Amendments to the Congress Charter; (2) Admission of new members; (3) Dates and venues of the Congress Meetings; (4) The agenda of the Congress Meetings; (5) Admission of special members; and (6) Other matters. Clauses (1) and (2) are to be decided by unanimous consent. Others shall be determined by a majority vote.
- Article 9: (Special Membership) Special Membership shall be determined by the executive committee upon application by the organization or individual wishing to apply for special membership and letters of endorsement by two or more members of the executive committee. Special membership shall continue until it is terminated by withdrawal.
- Article 10: (Guests) Guests may be recommended and invited by the representative of the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting. Guests may participate in the Congress Meeting and give presentations on the theme(s) for which they have been invited.
- Article 11: (Expenses) In principle, expenses relating to the holding of the Congress Meeting, as well as lodging expenses for the participating delegates, shall be borne by the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting. Member Governments participating in the Congress Meeting shall bear the cost of air and other travel and transportation associated with their delegates attending the Congress Meeting.
- Article 13: (Secretariat) The Secretariat shall be situated in the Nara Prefectural Government.

Summary of Opening Ceremony and Plenary Session

- Article 14: (Provisional Measures) In order to ensure the continuation of the Local and Regional Government Congress Meetings, the meetings shall be held in Nara Prefecture until 2013. However, this is not to preclude other local and regional governments from offering to hold the Meetings. Local and regional governments considering holding a Meeting are to contact the Secretariat.

Exchange of views

No particular views were voiced, and the Nara Charter (draft) was unanimously adopted as is.

- Introduction of the logo of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Summary and adoption of the First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Joint Statement (Draft)

Summary of the Joint Statement (draft)

- The building of a strong network of local and regional governments, which have close relationships with local residents, is one of the most effective means for East Asia to contribute to world peace and prosperity. Standing upon the common philosophy of respect for diversity and working toward the common goal of continuing peaceful and sustainable development, we local and regional governments establish this Congress to recognize that we have a basic responsibility for the stable development and peace of East Asia and to strengthen cooperation and collaboration between local and regional governments. Under the adopted Nara Charter, we will: Hold a Meeting every year to discuss the realities and challenges of each region, share our knowledge, and learn from one another, and; with the participation of researchers, experts, and practitioners relating to the common challenges facing us, we will promote discussion and work toward solutions. The content of the reports and discussions during the Meetings will be made public through periodicals etc. and made available to other local and regional governments, while also serving as a catalyst for enhancing the level of understanding and interest on the part of many, including the central government, in the realities of the regions in East Asia.
- We shall also invite other local and regional governments in East Asia to participate, and coordinate with existing congresses formed around East Asian local and regional governments and organizations, for mutual exchange and sharing of knowledge. We will place importance in the efforts promoted by our central governments of building multilateral cooperation and fostering trust in East Asia, and we will take actions capable of contributing to the achievement of the same. We will place particular importance on the value of building a framework for cooperation amongst local and regional governments, and will explore avenues for collaboration with our central governments.
- The 2011 Meeting shall be held in Nara.

Exchange of views

No particular views were voiced, and the Joint Statement (draft) was unanimously adopted as is.

The East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter

(Authentic)

The East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter

Preamble

We, the representatives of local and regional governments in East Asia, which have conducted exchanges that date back through more than a millennium, have convened in the year 2010 here in Nara, the birthplace of the ancient Japanese capital of Heijokyo commemorating its 1,300th anniversary. Recognizing that we share many cultural heritages, we have agreed to the following.

In the context of increasing globalization, the stable prosperity and progress of East Asia is predicated upon enhancing understanding, cooperation, and partnership while respecting our diversities, fostered by the history and culture of our respective regions.

To deepen mutual understanding among the diverse communities in East Asia, there must be continuous exchanges covering a wide range of areas.

Because of our close relationship with local residents, we, the local and regional governments know firsthand the realities and challenges facing our communities, and the candid discussion of such issues will promote true mutual understanding among us, the local and regional governments.

Therefore, there is a need for local and regional governments to assemble regularly to update one another on the realities and challenges of our regions, discuss common issues, promote deeper understanding, and explore possibilities for cooperation.

By thus convening on a regular basis, we, the local and regional governments can enrich our knowledge, improve our administrative capacities, strengthen friendship and trust amongst ourselves, and furthermore contribute to the stability of relations among nations in East Asia and, ultimately, to the stable development of East Asia as a whole.

Article 1 : Establishment

In order to achieve the objective of the Preamble, we hereby establish the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress (hereinafter referred to as "the Congress").

Article 2 : Objectives

The objectives of the Congress are :

- (1) To engage in candid exchange of views and deepen mutual understanding concerning the challenges relevant to the regions of East Asia, such as promoting regional economic development, improving the quality of living standards, addressing environmental issues and population aging, preserving cultural heritages, promoting tourism, providing quality education, and encouraging exchanges among future generations ; and
- (2) Through exchange of views in the Congress, to strengthen the administrative capacities of Member Governments to solve the issues facing their respective regions.

Article 3 : Activities

The activities of the Congress shall be :

- (1) To meet on a regular basis ;
- (2) To provide information to further mutual understanding among Member Governments and promote higher levels of administrative capacities ; and
- (3) To engage in other activities as would help to achieve the objectives of the Congress.

Article 4 : Membership

1. Members of the Congress shall be the local and regional governments which sign this Charter (hereinafter referred to as "Charter Governments") and all other local and regional governments which are approved for membership in the Congress in accordance with Article 5 below.
2. Each Member Government shall be represented by the head of its executive body.
3. Charter Governments are shown in the attached Table.

The East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Nara Charter

Article 5 : Admission

1. Local and regional governments wishing to apply for membership to the Congress shall submit to the Secretariat their written application with letters of endorsement from two or more current Member Governments.
2. Approval for membership shall be based on the unanimous consent of Charter Governments.
3. Membership shall be effective as of the day approval is granted.

Article 6 : Withdrawal

Members wishing to withdraw from the Congress may do so by submitting to the Secretariat a written notice of withdrawal.

Article 7 : The Congress Meeting

1. The Congress Meeting shall be held once a year in principle.
2. The Congress Meeting shall be attended by the representative of each Member Government. When a representative is unable to attend, an authorized delegate may attend on their behalf.
3. The Congress Meeting shall be called by the representative of the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting.
4. The Congress Meeting shall be chaired by the representative of the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting.

Article 8 : Executive Committee

1. An executive committee shall be established to facilitate the operations of the Congress.
2. The executive committee shall consist of the Charter Governments.
3. The executive committee shall determine :
 - (1) Amendments to the Congress Charter ;
 - (2) Admission of new members ;
 - (3) Dates and venues of the Congress Meetings ;
 - (4) The agenda of the Congress Meetings ;
 - (5) Admission of special members ; and
 - (6) Other matters relating to the smooth operation of the Congress.
4. The chairperson of the executive committee shall be elected from among its members.
5. The executive committee shall, in principle, meet in conjunction with the Congress Meeting. If necessary, the chairperson shall convene additional meetings.
6. The quorum of the executive committee shall consist of one half of the members currently serving on the committee.
7. With the exception of Clauses 3 (1) and (2) above, decisions of the executive committee shall be made by a majority vote, with the chairperson casting the deciding vote in the event of a tie. Decisions relating to Clauses 3 (1) and (2) above shall be made by unanimous consent of all members, including those not present at the meeting on that day.
8. The provisions of Clause 2 of the preceding Article shall apply mutatis mutandis to the executive committee.

Article 9 : Special Membership

1. Organizations and individuals wishing to apply for special membership in the Congress shall submit to the Secretariat their written application with letters of endorsement from two or more current members of the executive committee.
2. Organizations and individuals granted special membership may participate, with the right to speak, in the Congress Meetings.
3. Special membership shall continue unless it is terminated by withdrawal.

Article 10 : Guests

1. Guests shall be recommended and invited by the representative of the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting.
2. Guests may participate in the Congress Meeting and give presentations on the theme(s) for which they have been invited.

Article 11 : Expenses

In principle, expenses relating to the holding of the Congress Meeting, as well as lodging expenses for the participating delegates, shall be borne by the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting. Member Governments participating in the Congress Meeting shall bear the cost of air and other travel and transportation associated with their delegates attending the Congress Meeting.

Article 12 : Reports

1. The Member Government which held the Congress Meeting shall, in principle within 3 months of the Congress Meeting, send a report of the Congress Meeting to each Member Government.
2. Member Governments which receive such report can forward copies to their central government and other relevant organizations, as well as to make the said report known to the general public.

Article 13 : Secretariat

1. A Secretariat shall attend to the administrative matters relating to the Congress.
2. The Secretariat shall be situated in the Nara Prefectural Government.
3. The Secretariat shall be composed of the director and their staff.
4. The Secretariat shall be responsible for :
 - (1)Receiving of documents relating to application for membership or withdrawal ;
 - (2)Compilation and provision of information relating to the management of the Congress ;
 - (3)Administrative support to the Member Government holding the Congress Meeting ;
 - (4)Keeping of records and managing public relations ; and
 - (5)Other administrative matters necessary for the operation of the Congress.

Article 14 : Provisional Measures

1. The Congress Meetings shall be held by Nara Prefecture. In this case Japanese Member Governments participating in the Congress Meeting shall bear the lodging expenses.
2. The stipulation of the preceding Clause is provisional and shall remain in effect until the Congress Meeting of 2013.

Supplementary Provision

This Charter shall come into effect upon its ratification at the Congress Meeting of 2010.

Table : Charter Governments
(Attached Table)

People' s Republic of China	Republic of Indonesia	Republic of the Philippines	Republic of Korea	Socialist Republic of Viet Nam	Japan
Jiangsu Province Anhui Province Henan Province Shaanxi Province Gansu Province Xian City Luoyang City Yangzhou City Huangshan City Dunhuang City	Province of Yogyakarta Special Region	Aurora Province	Gyeonggi-do Province Chungcheongnam-do Province Gongju City Seosan City Buyeo County Jeollanam-do Province Gyeongsangbuk-do Province Gyeongju City	Quang Nam Province Hoi an City	Aomori Prefecture Yamagata Prefecture Fukushima Prefecture Niigata Prefecture Toyama Prefecture Fukui Prefecture Gifu Prefecture Shizuoka Prefecture Mie Prefecture Shimane Prefecture Kochi Prefecture Kumamoto Prefecture Nara Prefecture Niigata City Nara City Tenri City Kashihara City Asuka Village

* Countries are put in alphabetical order

The First Joint Statement

Joint Statement on the First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress 2010

(Authentic)

Mutual cooperation for strong network-building among local and regional governments, having close relationships with their respective residents, is one of the most effective means of nurturing a sense of community in East Asia and for East Asia to concertedly contribute to global peace and prosperity.

In the context of rapidly increasing globalization and changing international paradigms, we East Asia local and regional governments share the universal stance of respecting our diversities in culture and tradition, fostered by the history and culture of our respective regions, as well as shifting the goal of peaceful and sustainable development now and into the future.

Upon this recognition, we who have come together in Nara on October 7, 2010, the 1,300th anniversary of the birth of the Japanese capital of Heijokyo, which was constructed in its day with the knowledge and technology of East Asia, hereby recognize anew the basic responsibility we local and regional governments have for the stable development and peace of East Asia, and agree to strengthen the collaboration between local and regional governments in accordance with the authority and responsibilities of each local and regional government.

To achieve this purpose, we welcome the call of Shogo Arai, Governor of Nara Prefecture, Japan, to establish the "East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress," and we will participate in this effort.

We "East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress" (hereinafter referred to as "Congress") shall perform the following.

1. In accordance with the "Nara Charter" adopted on this day,

- (1) The Congress shall convene a meeting every year, where each member will report their current realities and challenges for mutual sharing and learning.
- (2) We will particularly address the challenges shared by the local and regional governments, such as the development of the local economy, the maintenance and conservation of the natural environment and traditional values, dealing with local environmental issues, improving the quality of life of residents including population ageing, correcting intra- and inter-regional disparities, and human resources development including education. Together with researchers, experts, and those involved on site in these fields, we will discuss in depth and consider solutions.
- (3) Through means such as periodicals we will swiftly report on what was presented and discussed during such meetings, making our results available for the use of other local and regional governments, while at the same time helping to raise the level of awareness and understanding of the realities of East Asia in the minds of our central governments as well as of the general public.

2. For the purpose of achieving the goals of the Congress and expanding its significance, we will

- (1) Issue a broad call to other local and regional governments in East Asia to expand our membership ;
- (2) Through collaboration with existing conference organizations, mainly organized around East Asia local and regional governments and groups, we will exchange, accumulate, and share information and knowledge ; and
- (3) Placing importance on the construction of multilateral cooperative relationships and on the building of confidence in East Asia that is currently being pursued by our central governments, and based on cooperating with our central governments, we will engage in activities which will help to achieve this objective and provide information, knowledge, and views as required, while calling on our central governments to support our activities.

In addition to cooperation among central governments, we will emphasize the value of building a framework of cooperation between local and regional governments based on their respective authorities and responsibilities of each as we explore ways to collaborate with our central governments.

The Congress Meeting for the year of 2011 shall be held by Nara Prefecture.

(Oct 7, 2010)

The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Regional Report



Summary of Regional Report Theme-1

Theme 1: Conservation of cultural heritage and tourism promotion

In Regional Report Theme 1, reports were submitted by participating local and regional governments under the theme of “Past and present endeavors and future promotional strategies for cultural heritage conservation and tourism promotion utilizing tourism heritage.” There were also presentations from various local and regional governments regarding global perspectives, observations, and challenges etc. relating to our theme, and a summary by the facilitator.

- Date and Time : Thursday October 7, 2010, 14:00 – 16:40
- Participants : Participating local and regional governments, Steering Committee, Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Consul-Generals in Osaka of participating nations, etc.
- Venue : Nara Prefectural New Public Hall 2nd Floor Reception Hall
- Participating local and regional governments :
 - 27 local and regional governments (Underlined governments gave presentations).
 - China : Anhui Prov. · Henan Prov. · Shaanxi Prov. · Yangzhou City · Dunhuang City
 - India : Varanasi City
 - Indonesia : Province of Yogyakarta Special Region
 - Philippines : Aurora Prov.
 - South Korea : Gyeonggi-do Prov. Chungcheongnam-do Prov. · Gongju City · Seosan City · Buyeo County · Jeollanam-do Prov · Gyeongju City
 - Japan : Aomori Pref. · Yamagata Pref. · Fukushima Pref. · Niigata Pref. · Toyama Pref. · Fukui Pref. · Mie Pref. · Shimane Pref. · Kochi Pref. · Niigata City · Tenri City · Asuka Village
- Facilitator : Mr. MUTO, Hiroshi Vice-Commissioner, Japan Tourism Agency
- Program :

Opening
· Facilitator's comments
· Session I: Presentations ① – ⑩ by local and regional governments
· Comments by local and regional governments
· Facilitator's comments
· Break
· Session II: Presentations ⑪ – ⑯ by local and regional governments
· Summary by facilitator
Closing

- Presentation Order :

Session I

- ① Anhui Prov. (China) ② Henan Prov. (China) ③ Shaanxi Prov. (China) ④ Yangzhou City (China)
⑤ Niigata City (Japan) ⑥ Chungcheongnam-do Prov. (Korea) ⑦ Jeollanam-do Prov. (Korea)
⑧ Gyeongju City (Korea) ⑨ Aomori Pref. (Japan) ⑩ Yamagata Pref. (Japan)

Session II

- ⑪ Varanasi City (India) ⑫ Province of Yogyakarta Special Region (Indonesia) ⑬ Seosan City (Korea)
⑭ Buyeo County (Korea) ⑮ Fukui Pref. (Japan) ⑯ Shimane Pref. (Japan)

1. Anhui Province Mr. SUN, Kangda (Vice Deputy, JiuHua Mountain Managing Committee)



Mt. Jiuhua in Chizhou City, Anhui Province is a holy land of Ksitigarbha. It is a Class 5A scenic landscape and has been designated a National Geopark and Natural/Cultural Heritage. It is 120 km² in area, 174 km² of which is protected. In 719, the Prince of Silla climbed the mountain to begin his ascetic practices and lived to the ripe old age of 99. Because of the omens that were seen before his birth and after his death, it was said that he was the incarnation of Ksitigarbha, so the area became a holy land of Ksitigarbha. Mt. Jiuhua gets its name from the poet Li Bai who compared its peaks to nine petals of a lotus flower. There are 2,000 cultural properties and 20 historical sites in the area, and

the some sutras from the Ming Dynasty and paintings of the Qing Dynasty Emperors have been declared National Treasures. The mountains are beautiful and you can see streams, waterfalls, seas of clouds, frost covered trees, and Broken specters. And, the lotus flowers are gorgeous. Over 90% of the area is forested and is a habitat to great biodiversity of 1,460 species of plants and 253 species of animals. The Buddhist culture and natural landscape sell Mt. Jiuhua. It is registered as a World Natural Heritage and has been applied for registration as a World Cultural Heritage.

Meanwhile, Mt. Jiuhua is also in the Yangtze River Delta economic zone and can be easily accessed by national roads, international passenger ports, railway and expressway, and an airport is under construction. For many years, knowing the circumstances of Mt. Jiuhua, we have considered environmental protection our mission, management our responsibility and development our duty, thus promoting a tourism-based economy and social development around the mountain. Working on the development concept of “subtracting from what is on the mountain and adding to what is off the mountain,” unnecessary structures have been relocated from tourism areas and greening successfully promoted.

Mt. Jiuhua is currently before a great opportunity. Protecting the mountain environment for future generations is the pretext and responsibility of landscape development under national development plans for the “Southern Anhui Province International Travel and Culture Model Zone” and “Metropolitan Jiangdu Industrial Conversion Model Zone.” We want to improve overall management of this area and build an information platform for providing information to all. We want to attract visitors by maximizing the brand image of Mt. Jiuhua.

2. Henan Province Mr. FENG, Yong Chen (Director-General, Foreign Affairs Office)



Henan is the birthplace of Chinese civilization and the historic center of politics, economics and culture. Twenty dynasties located their capitals here over a 3,000-year period, and 200 emperors have assailed from here. Four of China’s biggest eight cities are in Henan and there are 30,000 sites with ancient remains, 1.4 million articles housed in the permanent collections of local museums, 3 World Cultural Heritages, 198 cultural structures protected by the country and 14 of the 100 large-scale sites in China’s eleventh 5-year development plan. Handing down and protecting such cultural heritages should not just rely on the power of government but should also encourage the

participation of businesses and residents. Cultural resource protection and development are the front and back faces of the same thing; if they can be properly protected, they can be scientifically developed and used, therefore the first step is to protect them.

Today, the tourism industry of Henan Province is at a turning point. We envision a “single axis” cultural ecological tourism route that reaches to Sanmenxia in the west, Shangqui in the east and Puyang in the northeast, and “four blocks” that divide tourism with connections beyond governmental frameworks into urban tourism, cultural experiences, countryside resorts and rural leisure. For example, with the cultural experience block, we want to form cultural ecological areas that combine staples of Chinese traditional cultures in and around Shaolin Temple, Longmen Grottoes, White Horse Temple, Millennium City Park, Xuanzang, Yinxu and Shangqui, and develop cultural experience programs for the international market.

As a result of qualitative improvements to tourism sites, developing common sense about tourism resources and internationalizing tourism service resources, we had 234.37 million visitors in 2009, of which 1.258 million were from foreign countries and 233.12 million from China, and attained 198.464 billion CNY in total tourism revenue. This has greatly boosted the economy of Henan Province. Targets for 2015 are 390 million tourists, which includes 3.7 million from outside the area, and a total tourism revenue of 374.5 billion CNY, which equates to about 13% of the provincial GRP. We want to make tourism a key industry of the Henan Province.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-1

3. Shaanxi Province Mr. SHI, Jiansheng (Deputy Secretary General)



The friendship between Shaanxi Province and Nara has a long history that dates back to the numerous envoys sent to China in the 6th ~ 7th centuries. After five failed attempts, the Monk Jianzhen made it to Japan and spread Buddhism and culture. More recently, in 1974, Xian City and Nara City signed a sister-city agreement, which was then followed by similar agreements between nine cities in Shaanxi and Japan.

Shaanxi Province is the top province in China in terms of the density, quantity and level of cultural and historical properties. If the culture and civilization of China are likened to a great tree, Beijing would be the canopy of leaves and Shaanxi would be the trunk and roots. Moreover, the ancient capital of Changan was not only the world's

largest international city of its time but also the birthplace of farming in China as this is where She-nong, the father of agriculture, started farming.

Furthermore, Shaanxi is a treasure house of talented human resources. Qin Shi Huang of the Qin Dynasty, who was from here, unified the country and established the first centralized government, and Zhang Qian of the Han Dynasty began his travels along the Silk Road from here. Xian has been the capital of 13 dynasties. These emperors ruled over the country from here and, when they died, were buried here. This includes the Han Emperors Gaozu and Wu, as well as China's only Empress Wu Zetian.

Traveling from north to south, the land is divided into the Loess Plateau, Guanzhong Plains and Qinba Mountains, each of which has its own distinctive manners and customs. Of the eight major sects of Buddhism, six locate the headquarters here. Besides the plethora of religious properties such as the Giant Wild Goose Pagoda, Great Mosque of Xian, Da Xingshan Temple, Palace of Chongyang, Qinlong Temple and Xiaoyou Temple, the natural landscape is exceptional with scenic places like Mt. Hua, Hukuo Falls and the Loess Plateau.

We want to create new tourism spots by connecting tourism and cultural heritage protection, and expand international exchange and cooperation. New models for promoting people-oriented cultural heritage protection and tourism have been developed. We will be directing efforts at cultural properties tourism so that local residents can benefit and will be digging up characteristic cultural resources to promote international exchange and introduce the culture of Shaanxi Province to the world.

We understand where we are going by knowing where we came from. Historical and cultural properties are spiritual resources and important foundations for our survival.

4. Yangzhou City Mr. DENG, Qing (Director, Foreign Affairs Office)



On behalf of Yangzhou City, home of Jianzhen, I would like to offer my congratulations to Nara and Japan in feting the 1,300th anniversary of Heijo-kyo capital.

Yangzhou City is located in the eastern part of China where the Yangtze River and Grand Canal cross. It is a cultural city with 2,500 years of history and recipient of the United Nations' Habitat Award. It is also one of China's 24 historical cities as there are many structures still remaining from the Han, Tang and Qin Dynasties. They are vivid reminders of Chinese culture and show how history has changed. The wonders of the north and south have come together here creating a plethora of works, knowledge and

schools of ancient China.

The culture of Yangzhou City is both new and old. The acrobats of Yangzhou make people hold their breath and our cuisine is famous. Furthermore, the city is overflowing with romanticism. As city administrators, we envision cultural experiences within tourism. Cultural resources are important components of the city and using them rationally means to appropriately protect them. A model project launched in 2007 is building housing and hotels without tearing down old buildings, and greenery and water sources are being protected as urban development is being promoted on a good environment. Yangzhou City may very well be the only city in China that links ecology and tourism. In 2014, Yangzhou City will mark its 2,500th anniversary. A number of activities are underway in anticipation of that.

Nevertheless, we face many difficulties. For example, how to solve the contradictions of an old city and a new city, and how to balance economic development with environmental protection. For this reason, we have sought the involvement of residents and are interacting with other cities. This exchange seems strongly about recognizing each other's features and learning from one another, rather than us all seeking the same thing.

Eastern culture values "harmony" and "unity." "Harmony" comes from exchange, whereas "unity" means cooperating with one another. We want to work with everyone for the "harmony" and "unity" of mankind and Mother Nature, mankind and culture, and mankind and history.

5. Niigata City Mr. SHINODA, Akira (Mayor)



Niigata City has two mothering rivers in the Shinano and Agano Rivers. The marshland around the rivers was transformed into some of the most fertile farmland in Japan long ago when our predecessors built pumping stations and dug drainage canals. Some 60 years ago, the canals were filled in, taking with them old memories of the water and the scent of the soil. Wanting to bring that back, we staged the “Water and Land Art Festival.” Some 61 artists from 13 countries around the world collaborated with teams of supporters to create a series of works displayed throughout the city. The

festival drew 550,000 people, not only promoting tourism but also instilling pride in residents and helping them to rediscover the water and land of our area. A sense of unity was brewed from the recognition of our lifestyle and culture rooted in both a port city and farming city.

Niigata thrived as a port town since the Edo Period because of its maritime importance as a port-of-call for trading ships sailing the Sea of Japan. Energies have long been directed at exchange with Northeast Asia, with sister-city agreements in place with Khabarovsk, Russia for more than 45 years and with Harbin, China for more than 30 years. Niigata has also an exchange agreement Ulsan, Korea. These exchanges are great opportunities to welcome in new culture and have led to 3-way environmental talks via rotating meetings between Harbin, Khabarovsk and Niigata. Niigata is linked to the sea by its rivers, therefore taking care of this environment is ranked in importance alongside cultural and human exchanges.

We aim at becoming a portal open not only to East Asia but all of Eurasia. We want to utilize our port resources to fuse new cultures from around the world with our long history and lifestyle on the water and land, and activate our communities.

On October 16 ~ 17 this year, Niigata will host the APEC 2010 Ministerial Meeting on Food Security. As the producing region of Japan’s top rice brands, we want to promote Niigata as the best suited city when it comes to food.

6. Chungcheongnam-do Province Mr. GOO, Bohn Choong (Vice Governor)



Chungcheongnam-do Province straddles the Geum River in the central west of the Korean Peninsula, facing China. Being the western coast of the country, cultural exchange with the Asian mainland is flourishing. Civilization developed along the river across its 400 km stretch from east to west. Gongju and Buyeo were the central areas of Baekje Kingdom over its 700-year history. As cultural heritages, there are the prehistoric sites of Seokjang-ri in Gongju and the bronze age site of Songgul-ri, Buyeo. From the tomb of King Muryeong that was discovered in 1971 came evidence of thriving exchange with China and Japan. In the Joseon Dynasty, the area was the cradle of

“Yangban culture” and “literary talent,” churning out many scholars as the center of Confucian culture, such as the independence activist Yu Gwan-sun.

Many cultural properties in ancient times were destroyed by war with no records remaining, but research into the Baekje culture took a new turn with the 1971 discovery of King Muryeong’s tomb and the 1993 discovery of a gilt bronze incense burner. Since 1994, the entire country has been part of a courageous project to develop Baekje culture zones and, after 17 years of hard work, the project is coming to an end this year. Twenty-six tourism zones have been designated, Anmeyer Island has been developed for international tourism and, starting in 2009, leisure-oriented cities are being built.

The tidal flats on the western coast are one of the three largest in the world and the Boryeong Mud Festival has become a major summertime event. It is also a habitat for many species of migratory birds, which are being protected as a part of promoting tourism. The eco-system was badly damaged by an oil spill in 2009, but recovery work has brought it back.

Moreover, the ancient capitals of Gongju and Buyeo County are the centerpieces of urban development projects focused on historical and cultural development with a strong awareness of protecting assets of all mankind. The aim is to register the Baekje historical zone as a World Cultural Heritage. However, tourism infrastructure that would consent use of cultural heritages has yet to be built. For that reason, efforts are being directed at expanding and developing theme parks and tourism and cultural content on the opportunities presented by the Great Baekje World Festival 2010, with the ultimate goal of forming a Baekje cultural zone. We plan to build tourism infrastructure, develop brands and strengthen cultural content.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-1

7. Jeollanam-do Province Mr. LEE, Jong-Bum (Assistant Governor)



Within Korea, Jeollanam-do Province is known for its cultural heritage and beautiful natural landscape, which includes marvelous islands, a long Rias coastline and tidal flats. It is also the birthplace of Goryeo celadon porcelain, and the bronze age dolmen found in Hwasun have been registered as UNESCO World Heritages. We are working hard to preserve the many heritages that have basked our cities in waves of history. In 1984, restoration work was launched on the historical sites of the Sanbyeolcho army that fought off Mongolian invasion, for a scheduled completion in 2015.

Within our tourism promotion strategy of utilizing cultural properties, the aim is to get both residents and visitors to use our cultural resources. We were the first local government to create an art bank and auction paintings to the general public, and the Jeollanam-do Provincial Orchestra has given over 300 performances since 2006 at the Mokpo Municipal Cultural & Sports Center. We also give tours of cultural properties to university students in the province and we offer the first system in Korea that gives university credit for volunteer activities in cultural properties development. Moreover, in 2009, descendants of the Battle of Myeongyang gathered to lay flowers as part of a festival commemorating Korea's victory over Hideyoshi Toyotomi in the Myeongyang Straits in the latter half of the 16th century.

Additionally, efforts are being directed at creating cultural tourism attractions. Plans are to build a park around the Hwasun dolmen by 2015 so as to preserve and manage the area as a cultural heritage. In 2010, our tidal flats were registered on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List. Moreover, in 2007, development of four "Citte Slow" (Slow Cities) in Jeollanam-do Province was started as the first such initiative in Asia. Plans are to develop them as meccas of green industry.

Cultural heritages are common assets of mankind and go beyond restoration of a specific space and time from the past. They should portray the way of life within past traditions rather than emphasize past trouble and conflict. By using them as education resources for future generations, we can promote peace and coprosperity for all in East Asia.

8. Gyeongju City Mr. LEE, Tae Hyun (Vice Mayor)



Gyeongju City was the ancient capital of the Silla Kingdom for 1,000 years and is today a representative city of Korean history and culture. Currently, we are implementing a Cultural Heritage & Urban Development Program in which we are attempting to enhance the value of historical sites by systematically excavating, restoring and developing cultural heritages and constructively utilizing them to activate the tourism industry. The goal is to develop our tourism potential by building a bigger base for cultural industries and constructing and using tourism facilities. Plans are to rearrange the spatial structure of the ancient city area, establish a traffic network and redevelop our urban infrastructure. We plan to invest 3.5 trillion KRW in total project costs over a 30-year period from 2006 ~ 2035.

Restoration will be finished at the end of this year on the Woljeong bridge that connects the Silla Palace and the Residence. Also, excavation work has already been launched at Hwangnyongsa Temple, and the sanctuary grounds will be groomed and an 80 m-tall 9-tier wood pagoda is being restored. Also, aged homes in a representative traditional village have been restored. We have also seen an increase in visitors to Yangdong Village, a yangban village of the Joseon Dynasty that was registered as a World Cultural Heritage this past August.

Gyeongju is easily accessed from four airports. And, in November this year, KTX opened a high speed rail line that enables access from Seoul in two hours, therefore we expect the number of visitors to our area to increase. Nonetheless, the tourism industry has been in an across-the-board slump since 2000 and personal spending is down, which makes the situation particular hard to increase visitors. The Cultural Heritage & Urban Development Program is being promoted to resolve this, with money and resources being directed at redeveloping the Hanwa Resort area, building a convention center to attract international events, developing traditional villages and organizing experienced-based agrotourism programs that have recently become popular. With these plans, we want to make Gyeongju into an international city for enjoying a variety of cultural experiences and staging international events, and convert tourism patterns from pass-throughs to overnight stays. We are targeting 15 million visitors in 2015 by offering opportunities to learn about and enjoy the history and culture of Korea.

9. Aomori Prefecture Mr. MIMURA, Shingo (Governor)



Aomori Prefecture has been blessed since ancient times with rich forests that gave birth to Jomon culture on a level unparalleled anywhere in the world. There are many Jomon sites across the prefecture including the Sannai-Maruyama site, which is one of the largest settlement sites in Japan and designated a Special National Historic Site of Japan. Some 5,500 years ago, Sannai-Maruyama was a village of 500 ~ 1,000 persons, equitable to a large city at the time. A variety of unearthed artifacts including clay figurines, earthenware and stone tools suggest that early life was affluent, peaceful

and caring. The site has been registered on the tentative list of World Heritages in anticipation of full registration as the Jomon Archeological Sites. Another important asset of ours is the World Natural Heritage Shirakami Mountains.

And, the people can be considered an asset of Aomori as well. With hot summers, cold winters, distinctive seasons and a plush natural environment that has endured since ancient times, Aomori has given birth to many artists. The long procession of stellar artists of world acclaim includes woodblock artist Shiko Munakata, novelist Osamu Dazai, author Shuji Terayama whose haikus, dramas and works of other genre are highly reputed in Europe, “Ultraman” creator Toru Narita and artist Yoshitomo Nara whose works fetch upwards of 1 million USD. Aomori still retains an atmosphere that brews originality and art.

That message is being delivered by the Aomori Museum of Art located adjacent to the Sannai-Maruyama historical site. Looking like a white canvas, the museum projects stories of art beyond space and time in the fields of painting, drama, film and dance. Outside the museum is a sculpture garden surrounded by Jomon forests. Aomori eagerly awaits visitors from inside and outside the prefecture with a wonderful natural environment, rewarding lifestyle, delicious cuisine and an artistic culture.

Time flows slowly in Aomori and tourism is being promoted on a fusion with art. This coming December 4, full service will start on all lines of the Tohoku Shinkansen, and the Hayabusa trains, traveling at a top speed of 320 kmh, should be bringing more people to our parts.

10. Yamagata Prefecture Mr. MURAKAMI, Kenichi (Director General, Tourism and Exchange Bureau, Commerce, Industry and Tourism Department)



Yamagata Prefecture is about 300 km northeast of Tokyo and can be reached from the capital area in just two and half hours by the Yamagata Shinkansen. The biggest feature of the area is the “warm hospitality.” In fact, traveler Isabelle Bird spoke of Yamagata in her “Unbeaten Tracks of Japan” as “a smiling and plenteous land, an Asiatic Arcadia.” She also wrote, “I told them truly that I should remember them as long as I remember Japan, and went on, much touched by their kindness.” Also, former US Ambassador to Japan, Edwin O. Reischauer, described it as a “land with hidden potential for development with a harmonious balance between Mother Nature and mankind,” and

called it “another Japan on the other side of the mountain.” Unfortunately, Yamagata Prefecture does not have the plethora of World Heritages and cultural properties that Nara Prefecture has, but it does have unique properties, both tangible and intangible. The Hagurosan 5-tier pagoda that symbolizes Mt. Haguro as a mecca of mountain worship is noted in the Michelin Green Guide and visited every year by 800,000 persons from Japan and abroad. The Bunshokan is designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan because of its red brick British renaissance architecture and is open to the general public free of charge. Moreover, Kurokawa Noh has been handed down over the past 500 years by local parishioners (farmers) of Kasuga Shrine, and has recently been invited to New York and Paris where it received raving reviews as a representative traditional performing art of Japan. Built in 860, Ritsushaku-ji Temple is an Important Cultural Property of Japan and is lauded by the poet Basho Matsuo in his famous haiku: “Silence, the sound of cicadas against the rocks,” but it has recently become popular in Korea because of its associations with the Monk Ennin and General Jang Bo Go. Then, there is a world-class natural heritage of the “Rime Trees of Zao.”

One of the challenges we face is the inability to increase the number of visitors. At present, foreign tourists are coming from Taiwan, Korea and Hong Kong, but we hope to draw from China and the ski-country of Australia in the future. We will work to hard to establish Yamagata as a popular destination for tourism and exchange by polishing up the local resources, developing tourism for both domestic visitors and inbound tourists from abroad, and making it good place to live and visit.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-1

11. Varanasi City Mr. SINGH, Kaushalendra (Mayor)



Varanasi is an important city for Buddhism and Hinduism. It has an area of 79.79 km² and a population of 1.2 million as of 2010. It is found on the banks of the Ganges River and is called the capital of Indian culture. The architecture, art and religion seen there are unique.

The rich heritages of the city are divided into three zones. In the riverfront heritage zone, 85 ghats span the 6.8 km of banks where the Ganges River takes a crescent shape. The core heritage area is the old city zone where some 70 important temples are found

including the renown Temple of Vishwanatha. Lastly, the Sarnath heritage zone is in the northern end of the city. This is where Buddha is said to have given his first lectures. Famous monuments include the Ashoka Pillar and Dhamika Stupa. Varanasi attracts tourists from all over the world as festivals are staged throughout the year and there are also Japanese, Korean and Thai temples.

As places of learning, Varanasi is home to Banaras Hindu University, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth University, Sanskrit University, which is renown for research into Sanskrit literature, and the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, which researches Buddhism.

Some of the major challenges Varanasi faces are an exploding population, rapid urbanization and various pressures placed on the riverfront by worsening traffic congestion, etc. To combat this, we have crafted a strategic development plan to build infrastructure and strengthen existing services. Some 14.9 bn INR have been used to develop general infrastructure and improve services, and the public and private sectors are partnered in water treatment, drinking water supply, sanitation, solid waste management and water preservation. Moreover, efforts are being made to promote eco-tourism, and we want to develop tourism by restoring old buildings, lakes and fortresses, and drawing from yoga and spiritual wisdom, ayurveda and naturopathy.

12. Province of Yogyakarta Special Region Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X (Governor)



Like Nara, Yogyakarta has great hidden potential as an ancient capital and many cultural heritages. It has been through periods of conflict and prosperity. And, it has made a positive contribution to Indonesia.

Yogyakarta is conducting various activities within East Asia as a city that targets tourism. There are unique socio-cultural conditions and a natural environment that are conducive to tourism. Our heritages include both cultural and natural heritages, but the individual locations and memories of the respective communities are also heritages.

Amidst today's ongoing globalization, the preservation of cultural heritages is a very important subject. The tourism industry is responsible for doing this by finding funding to educate and illuminate the local communities, and build measures. Yogyakarta has been extremely successful at this. There are 69 heritages as well as diverse and extant cultures in Yogyakarta, and they are bringing benefits to communities as a whole. We must continue to maintain these heritages and preserve our cultural tourism.

We have sister-province relations with provinces in 7 countries to note Japan, Austria, United States of America, Thailand, South Korea, Egypt, and Russia. And, we want to continue these relations.

Culture and education are the keys to the sustainable development of tourism. We want to further expand our sister-city and sister-region relations, and develop our cultural heritages and tourism industry. The preservation of cultural heritages and the development of the tourism industry are very important in the sense that they stimulate the economy, provide jobs and create business opportunities. There is still plenty of room to grow in the tourism market of Yogyakarta. We want to more effectively and more efficiently promote tourism in the future. And, I am confident to say that tourism promotion policies require cooperative relations not only with these 7 countries but also many other countries.

13. Seosan City Mr. LEE, Wan Seob (Deputy Mayor)



Seosan City was involved in international exchange from an early point in its history because of the way the bay reaches far inland. A unique bay culture flourished and played a pivotal role in conveying foreign cultures, such as Buddhism and Catholicism, to the interior of Korea in early times. Even today, that historical competence continues unbroken as Seosan City is a driver of regional development.

Moreover, Seosan City is a strategic transport hub of central Korea. Located 120 km southwest of Seoul, the capital can be reached in about 1 hr by car. Along with this adjacent feeling, Seosan City is known throughout Korea for Daisen Port, which is the closest access point to China. Furthermore, Seosan City is home to the fifth largest petroleum complex in the world and an automotive industry that turns out 200,000 vehicles a year in the sengyenjigok district. It is a city of 160,000 people, driven by

industry and agriculture that has achieved great progress at the core of the Korean economy.

Seosan City has many natural and cultural heritages, and the utmost is being done to preserve and develop them. One such effort is the high quality brand of rice grown on reclaimed land of 100 million m² in Cheonsu Bay, which is the top exported agricultural product of Korea. Another effort is the constructive development of the bay culture that is a part of national policy, aimed at activating the local economy by establishing a local identity and developing tourism resources. A third effort is the largest migratory bird reserve in Korea that has been sectioned off in the Cheonsu Bay area and related projects to develop tourism resources such as a nature park, bird watching festival, etc. A fourth effort is a series of preservation projects on Cheonsu Bay and Garolim Bay meant to develop the fisheries and tourism resources by releasing fry and marine products, etc. A fifth effort is to preserve natural tracts and develop tourism resources for international resorts in and around Lake Bunam, which is the one of the largest freshwater sources in the world at 300 million t, Lake Ganwol and Lake Dae. A sixth effort is to develop the livestock industry by building a theme park based on Korean beef and developing a brand of Seosan beef at the largest livestock farm in Korea.

Furthermore, efforts are being directed at activating Daisen Port by opening international shipping routes and at expanding the arterial transportation infrastructure for promoting tourism by building an airport and expanding the expressway network.

Under our basic urban plan and general development strategy that target 2020, Seosan City is promoting balanced development by segmenting the southeastern part of the city as a tourism and culture zone, the southwest as a natural eco-system zone, the central area as a residential and administrative zone, and the north as an industrial development zone.

This is the approach we are using to preserve our natural and cultural heritages, develop tourism resources, build 3-tier transportation infrastructure that links air, land and sea, accelerate construction of a world-class city to visit for its culture and natural environment, and make Seosan the vibrant happy city we envision.

14. Buyeo County Mr. LEE, Yong Woo (County Executive)



Buyeo is located in the southwest corner of Chungcheongnam-do Province. It has a population of 76,000 and an area of 624 km². The area served as the ancient capital of six generations of the Baekje kings over a 123-year period, and there are numerous designated cultural properties including four National Treasures.

The 2010 Great Baekje World Festival was held from September 17 to October 17 this year. Events were staged all across Buyeo under the slogan of “Revival of the Great Baekje: 1,400 Years Later” and over 2 million visitors attended. A parade was organized with performances of the way of life in the Baekje Kingdom, beginning with

the six generations of kings, and the Baekma River was center stage for a flotilla of boats taking part in an on-the-water show. Moreover, a wide array of performing arts were unfolded with state-of-the-art technology such as musicals, dramas, water screens, laser shows and fireworks displays. Within all of that, a popular highlight was a nighttime parade of the Prince of Baekje and the Princess of Silla whose love went beyond borders some 1,400 years ago.

Preservation projects of the ancient capital in Buyeo aim to establish the local identity and efficiently preserve and utilize our historical and cultural resources. The targeted future image is a human-scale ancient capital adrift in the Baekje fragrance, which is to be achieved by restoring the idyllic agriculture-based city that people were proud of. Plans are for restoration based on historical spirituality, creative restoration and reproduction, schools of history and culture and landscape management to preserve the history and culture.

Buyeo was a citadel with wondrous natural surroundings and the center of a waterfront culture on the Baekma River. This year, it was registered on the World Cultural Heritage Tentative List and, to become registered as a World Cultural Heritage, Buyeo divided up the historical area where both history and culture can be captured with one eye into five blocks. Having continued as the ancient capital for 123 years, Buyeo can be considered a great asset of exchange in East Asia. We want to establish the identity of the ancient capital by efficiently developing our historical and cultural sites, and, from there, gain registration as an ancient capital preservation project and World Cultural Heritage. That is our mission.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-1

15. Fukui Prefecture Mr. NISHIKAWA, Issei (Governor)



Fukui Prefecture is located roughly in the middle of Japan facing to the Sea of Japan. The area was settled a long time ago and served as a landing point for ambassadors of the Goguryeo Kingdom in the 6th century and the Silla Kingdom in latter half of the 7th century when on their way to Nara or Kyoto. Wood strips unearthed at the Heijo-kyo Palace Site listed delicious foods shipped from Fukui Prefecture to Nara. Even now, Japan's "best tasting" crab is caught around November.

Of Japan's 47 prefectures, Fukui has the most shrines and temples per capita. Obama in Fukui Prefecture is called "Nara on the Sea" and is connected with Nara City. Legend has it that long ago a large eagle carried a baby from Obama and left him on a large cedar tree of Todai-ji Temple. When he grew up, the child became a high-ranking priest and the first head of Todai-ji Temple, by the name of Roben.

One of the important jobs that regional governments have when it comes to promoting tourism is to protect its remaining cultural properties against development, preserve them and use them. One example in Fukui Prefecture is the Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins of Japan's period of wars (15 ~ 16th centuries). Because there were not any professional restorers in Fukui Prefecture at the time, assistance was obtained from the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties to excavate and restore the site.

Another job of regional governments is to discover cultural properties in their areas and advertise them across the country. The rural villages of Fukui Prefecture have wonderful farm houses and storehouses with plastered walls and gabled roofs. These structures would be lost if abandoned, therefore a certification system was created to enable restoration and preservation, and more than 700 homes have been registered to date. It is also important to identify great people of the local area. Fukui Prefecture has purchased first editions of Kimimasa Yuri's draft of the "Oath in Five Articles" that served as the manifesto of the Meiji Government, and Tenshin Okakura's "The Book of Tea" that called for Asia to awaken in colonial times.

A third job of regional governments is to cooperate with residents and local governments. At the Asakura Clan Site, not only was the site restored but residents stage all sorts of events there and everyone pitched in to recover the area from flooding. It is important to cooperate with residents and local governments in preserving cultural properties.

16. Shimane Prefecture Mr. MIZOGUCHI, Zembee (Governor)



Shimane introduced culture from mainland Asia a long time ago. It is said that rice farming spread from the Korean Peninsula to Kyushu and ultimately Shimane around the 3rd century BC. Agriculture developed early on and strongly, eventually earning the Shimane area a prowess that some called a "dynasty." From Kojindani site were unearthed 358 bronze swords, more than half of all bronze swords discovered across the entire country. It is said that bronze bells, an influence from the mainland, were made also in Japan as considerable quantities have been discovered in Izumo, Shimane.

Nara is feting the 1,300th anniversary of the Heijo-kyo capital, and Japan's oldest historical records "Kojiki" were compiled two years later in 712. The early chapters of "Kojiki" speak of the gods and one-third of those stories take place in Izumo, Shimane. One such story, the "Legend of Handing Over the Country," tells of the Izumo gods offering to hand over the country in return for the ancestors of the imperial family building Izumo-taisha Shrine as a home for them. Izumo-taisha Shrine is one of Japan's oldest shrines and widely known as the god of marriage, therefore many people visit the shrine to pray for marriage. It is a major cultural and historical asset for Shimane.

Come the middle ages, the Iwami Silver Mine rose to fame, but it wasn't until 2007 that the mine was registered as a World Heritage. Around the 16th century, a new smelting technique was introduced from the Korean Peninsula. Resultantly, production grew sharply until, in the early 17th century, the mine was producing one-third of the world's silver. The mine is nestled in forests. The wood was cut down as charcoal for smelting and new trees were planted to maintain supplies. This form of environment-compatible industry was why the mine was registered as a World Heritage. Amidst the changing history of cultural properties, it is one example of the importance of preserving cultural properties in a harmonious state with Mother Nature.

Shimane Prefecture is preserving and utilizing heritages from ancient and medieval times for tourism promotion.

Comment 1 Fukushima Prefecture Mr. UCHIBORI, Masao (Vice Governor)



The other day, two Japanese scientists won the Nobel Prize. Their theory on cross-coupling is a perfect parallel to the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress we are attending today. They theorized that a palladium medium was necessary to fuse or mix two different things. Today's congress is that medium and an opportunity for mixing.

I would like to introduce a couple of examples of exchange between Nara and Fukushima. The first is exchange between Nara City and Koriyama City, Fukushima Prefecture. They have been sister-cities for almost 40 years, but this past summer, the Mayor of Nara City took part in the Koriyama Uneme Festival. The two cities are tied together via the legend of the Princess Uneme.

Another is that the chief abbots of Kofuku-ji Temple and Yakushi-ji Temple of Nara visited Aizu, Fukushima about two weeks ago. They were there to commemorate the work of the Monk Tokuitsu of Kofuku-ji Temple who 1,200 years before spread Buddhism in the local area.

I think that today's congress is a good opportunity to salute the events of long ago. I similarly hope that it brings new opportunities for the future. If this is the kind of event it is, I look forward to it continuing on into the future.

Comment 2 Kochi Prefecture Mr. OZAKI, Masanao (Governor)



We have had goodwill agreements with Anhui Province and Jeollanam-do Province since long ago and exchanges between us have been active. It is very significant for us to develop from this kind of bilateral relationship to the multilateral relationships of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress.

We just heard from the various delegates of China, Korea and Japan about efforts that each is implementing to preserve and promote their cultural heritages, develop them through the addition of new elements and use them to promote tourism, in the interest of economic development. The balance between preservation and development needs to be handled very carefully, but it is truly important. The various activities we heard about will serve us as good references.

I would like to talk about some new elements that make our prefecture look good. These attractions are what draw visitors, but when it comes to international tourism, there are always barriers to overcome. Two such barriers are distance and cost. Traveling to far-away lands takes time and money. Because of that, international travelers seek what they believe will be the most fun. Here, the key point is effective PR that guarantees fun if one comes. In that regards, I want to talk about the images we use to attain that effectiveness.

As you know, Chinese films are popular in Japan. Similarly, Korean films and TV shows are big in Japan. As a result, the Japanese travel en masse to China and Korea. Also, when Korean or Chinese films are made in Japan, many Chinese and Koreans come to Japan to visit those locations. Travelers select attractions via images before making a trip. Today, images of Japan are flowing into Korea and China, and vice-versa, so the environment is very good. Developing this exchange of images should help drive international tourism.

By the way, Kochi Prefecture is the birthplace of Ryoma Sakamoto who is perhaps the most popular figure in Japanese history. Right now, in Japan, the long-running drama series "Ryoma Den," which recounts the life of Sakamoto, is a big hit and I have heard talk that, like other successful series, will be shown in Taiwan, Korea and China. I invite all of those who watch this show to come to Kochi to see where the story took place. Please forgive the PR punch I dropped at the end.

Summary Mr. MUTO, Hiroshi (Vice-Commissioner, Japan Tourism Agency)



The theme of this congress was promotional strategies for cultural heritage conservation and tourism promotion utilizing cultural heritages. All of the central governments emphasized systematic preservation and protection as the top priority, and development and usage beneath that. In general, the local governments have been cooperating in tourism development since 2000, and they have been conscious of preservation and protection throughout those efforts. I learned just how much local governments have become interested in utilizing UNESCO World Heritages.

The second session began with a presentation by India, which made it clear how Buddhism has driven exchange between India and Nara since ancient times.

They say that, from here forward, international tourism and exchange in East Asia will see the most explosive growth in the world. Within that, it is highly anticipated that exchange in the historically rich East Asia will develop as a win-win situation for all. As was pointed out in the presentation by Yangzhou delegation, the expression "harmony and unity" is a perfect way to describe the future of tourism and the future utilization of cultural heritages.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-2

Theme 2 : International Youth Exchange for the Next Generation

In Regional Report Theme 2, the keynote lecture by Mr. TOKUNAGA, Tamotsu, the Director-General of the National Institute for Educational Policy Research was followed by reports submitted by participating local and regional governments under the theme, “Past and present endeavors and future promotional policies for mutual understanding and friendship beyond national borders through international youth exchange.” There were also presentations from various local and regional governments regarding global perspectives, observations, and challenges etc. relating to our theme, and a summary by the facilitator.

- Date and Time : Thursday October 7, 2010, 14:00 – 16:40
- Participants : Participating local and regional governments, Steering Committee, Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Consul-Generals in Osaka of participating nations, etc.
- Venue : Nara Prefectural New Public Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Rooms 3 & 4
- Format : Keynote lecture, presentations by local and regional governments, and discussion with guest speakers. 2-part format.
- Participating local and regional governments : 4 local and regional governments
 - South Korea : Gyeongsanbuk-do Province
 - Japan : Nara Prefecture · Kumamoto Prefecture · Kashihara City
- Facilitator : Mr. TANINO, Sakutaro, Vice Chairman, Steering Committee for the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress
- Keynote lecturer : Mr. TOKUNAGA, Tamotsu, Director General, National Institute for Educational Policy Research
- Guest speakers :
 - Mr. ANZAI, Yuichiro, Executive Advisor for Academic Affairs, Keio University / Former President, Keio University / Advisor, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
 - Mr. ITO, Tadamichi, President, Nara Prefectural University
 - Mr. HORIBA, Atsushi, Chairman, President & CEO, HORIBA Ltd.
- Program :

Opening
· Keynote lecture
· Break
· Session I: Presentation by local and regional governments ① & ②
· Discussion
· Session II: Presentation by local and regional governments ③ & ④
· Discussion
· Summary by facilitator
Closing

- Presentation Order :
 - Session I : ① Kumamoto Pref. (Japan) ② Kashihara City (Japan)
 - Session II : ③ Gyeongsanbuk-do Prov. (Korea) ④ Nara Pref. (Japan)



Japan's policies on education and employment have been developed on a national pretext up until now, but as the local economies of East Asia continue to grow and merge, future policies will have to bear in mind the integrated development of Greater Asian economy. From this point forward, universities will need to foster specialties acceptable first and foremost across East Asia but also the entire world. Additionally, they will need to cooperate internationally in providing education beyond borders. They will need to give students skills for communicating with people of differing backgrounds. Tolerance will be needed to sufficiently understand the diversity and complexity of languages, religions, ethnicities, systems, customs, cultures and so forth, and respect the cultures and ways of thinking of others.

As the primary agent in this kind of human resource development, universities are challenged with the task of ensuring international acceptance. In the interest of providing education of international standard at the university and graduate school level, it will be necessary to create some sort of evaluation system with a common set of measures, under which schools can design academic programs, and publicize their content and the knowledge and skills that students would acquire. Moreover, efforts will be needed to standardize quality assurances within regions, i.e., university grading, etc.

University systems are universal in nature, but they differ slightly on the finer points. The USA is proposing open higher educational services to the WTO. In contrast, Japan and the EU have cooperated on guidelines for honoring the university systems of other countries, which UNESCO and OECD have adopted. The EU adopted the Bologna Declaration in 1999 and has since been promoting efforts to unify the university systems of Europe. Furthermore, they are promoting exchange with universities in countries outside of the EU under the Erasmus Mundus Program.

At the Japan-China-Korea Summit last (2009) October, Japan proposed a meeting of experts to discuss the standardization of quality assurances, credit transfers, grading and exchange programs of universities in Asia, and it was there agreed to launch efforts to build a framework on inter-university exchange to accompany quality assurances in the Asian region. Following this, the Collective Action for Mobility Program of University Students was launched in April this year (2010), which started exchanges amongst universities in those three countries aimed at quality assurance, credit transfers and so forth under a CAMPUS Asia project. Future plans are to expand the program to all of ASEAN.

Another activity important towards developing practical human resources who can contribute to growth of the East Asian region is for businesses to take on talented foreign exchange students for internships so that they can learn Japanese language and business ethics and apply them when back in their native countries. Already, as of this year, there are universities supporting this kind of program. Studies are also underway on overseas internships for Japanese students.

Central governments can contribute by creating the framework that acts as the overall standard. Regional governments, individual universities and corporations can play effective roles in developing mid- and long-term exchanges and concrete activities for lifestyle/work experiences for young people and students. Internship programs are very important towards promoting mutual understanding. Internships at cultural or religious institutes can instill respect for diverse backgrounds and cultures, and, at the same time, deepen mutual understanding amongst those working in the same place.

In particular, similar traditions are found in China, Korea and Viet Nam; ceramics are a common art activity in East Asia. One possibility would be to stage a ceramics event of young aspiring artists to deepen their understanding of the arts, cultures and backgrounds of other countries.

Already, in Japan, it is regular practice for universities and graduate schools to jointly use facilities. In fact, several elite research institutes have created systems for welcoming students and professors of other universities to do research. For example, Super Kamiokande is a facility unparalleled anywhere in the world and more than 60% of the researchers there are foreign nationals. People from differing countries congregate in places where advanced research and educational activities are offered. These kinds of things need to be intentionally planned on the international level. Additionally, in regards to environmental problems commonly shared within a specific area, universities of that area could form a consortium to do joint research, which would benefit all participants.

Given the diversity amongst the countries of Asia today, what local governments do can help to develop human resources needed to grow the Asian economy. Already, Nagoya University is working to build the judicial systems of Viet Nam and Central Asia, and a wide range of art sessions are staged every year amongst national art institutes from China, Korea and Japan. This flow needs to be accelerated. There are limits to what universities, public organizations and local governments can do on their own. What is important is that people with similar determination work together to make things happen.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-2

1. Kumamoto Prefecture Mr. KABASHIMA, Ikuo (Governor)



In my high school days, I was a dunce and didn't study, yet I had several big dreams – to raise cattle, to become a politician and to write novels. I managed to graduate and go to work for an agricultural cooperative, and, because of my interest in cattle farming, I went to the USA to learn about it at the ripe young age of 21. Working hard from dawn to sunset on the farm gradually woke me from my dream. A turning point in my life came right about that time, when I was accepted to the University of Nebraska. I figured studying would be more fun than working. Though I failed the SAP test for foreign exchange students, I was admitted to the Department of Agriculture largely because of

a friend who told the school to give me a chance since I was determined. Studying hard, I got straight As and subsequently was awarded a scholarship that paid my tuition. Then, at the age of 28, I rehashed another of my childhood dreams and enrolled in a doctor's course in political science at Harvard University to study politics. It was a bit bold on my part to enroll in a doctorate program with a scholarship having never studied political science before, but I am grateful even today to all of the very esteemed professors for extending me a warm hand.

Because of those experiences of mine, I am involved as governor in policies to guide today's youth in formulating their dreams. Within that, we have sister-region agreements to encourage and promote youth exchange with the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China and the State of Montana in the USA. By chance, groups of young boys and girls from both sister-regions paid me a visit at the same time. I saw some heart-to-heart exchanges as the children from China, the USA and Japan interacted with each other. Having seen how enthusiastic the children were, I couldn't help but thinking that opportunities for international exchange should be offered at an earlier age. We are also contemplating sending high school students from Kumamoto to schools overseas as exchange students under our Kumamoto Jishukan Plan.

I have visited our schools and spoken to some 20,000 children of my experiences in the USA, the unlimited possibilities of life and having the courage to pursue one's dreams. We are working everyday to create international exchange opportunities that will open the eyes of the young of Kumamoto.

2. Kashihara City Mr. MORISHITA, Yutaka (Mayor)



International youth exchange in Kashihara City has much to do with the city's history. The giant relief in front of Yamato-Yagi Station in Kashihara depicts young people ardently building a new Fujiwara-kyo capital and a ship carrying an envoy of young people across rough seas to learn about new cultures. It conveys the city's messages to young people "to keep your eyes open to peril" and "to be strong in facing adversity." Moreover, a glass bowl from Persia was unearthed from a burial mound in Kashihara, telling of the city's importance as the far-eastern end of the Silk Road. The paths we walk everyday take us to far-away Rome. It's a tale full of romance and splendor. A

country will undeniably fade away if its young people lose the courage to venture into unknown worlds or the curiosity to learn about new worlds.

Kashihara City budgets 0.15% of its general account, or about 60 million JPY, to international exchange programs. This is several times as much as cities of similar size allocate. A couple of highlight activities are English lessons at daycare centers and dispatching teachers of differing culture to kindergartens and elementary schools. These activities are implemented because of the importance of deepening one's understanding of different cultures in the formative years. Also, at any one time, there are 80 students enrolled in Japanese language classes. Started by an NPO to help foreign laborers learn about Japan, the city took over the program and has been running it for about 15 years. Today, it operates like an international exchange center of Nara Prefecture.

Exchange is also being promoted via programs with sister-city Luoyang, China that send and welcome junior high school and high school students for overseas visits, and by welcoming junior high school and high school students from Indonesia. Kashihara also exchanges information with Viet Tri, Vietnam in the fields of urban planning, tourism promotion and cultural properties preservation. Cooperation is also being provided to teach elementary and junior high school students about hygiene and to promote good health.

Kashihara City has been called Japan's cradle of international exchange. In this 21st century, we want to become a driver of international exchange by sending young people out into the world with dreams and desires, and by welcoming young people from all over the world.

3. Gyeongsangbuk-do Province Mr. SON, Se Joo (Ambassador Vice Governor)



Recent years have witnessed the formation of multiethnic, multicultural societies, growing solidity in international cooperation and interdependence, and active movement of both people and things. These trends are constructively fueling international exchange because it enhances a cosmopolitan way of thinking in today's youth, who one day will be leading this world, and foment greater understanding.

International youth exchange in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province is introducing the history, culture, politics and other aspects of the province overseas. Moreover, the opportunities to see and directly experience the cultures, customs, learning institutes and other qualities of other countries serves the youth greatly when it comes to selecting

their own career paths. Gyeongsangbuk-do Province is promoting three programs.

"International Study for the Next Generation" sends exceptional high school students to Europe and advanced regions of Asia. The "International Youth Exchange with Ningxia Hui" program promotes far-reaching exchange, cooperation and understanding amongst youth from Japan, China and Korea, with an experience-based program for encountering traditional cultures and current issues in each Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Shimane Prefecture (Japan) and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region (China). The "Global Leadership Development" program offers Korean studies to fourth generation Koreans living in Russia, sends young people abroad for cultural encounters and promotes planting projects aimed at preventing desertification in Korea and China. These programs are fomenting pride in Korea's youth and broadening their international perception and knowledge.

International youth exchange within the province includes a homestay program between Pohang City and Joetsu City (Japan), cultural exchange between youths from Gimcheon City and Nanao City (Japan), and periodic visits by students and teachers in Uiseong County and Xianyang City (China). Efforts are being made to broaden international perception and knowledge through international exchange, and to enhance mutual understanding by activating exchange in the private sector.

The fact that they call the 21st century the "Age of Asia" is all the more reason why we want to expand the opportunities of exchange between Asian nations via sustainable, systematic support measures for the youth of today. However, currently, much is lacking in programs as often exchanges focus on sightseeing and end after a single experience. Our present challenge is to find programs that can be fruitful.

4. Nara Prefecture Mr. KUBOTA, Osamu (Vice Governor)



Our proposal is to prepare the next generation of leaders with intelligence and the ability to act. More specifically, we want to develop human resources with global vision, knowledge and skills and East Asian values and culture, creative and logical human resources that can demonstrate the originality of Asia in the face globalization, and human resources with the expressiveness and communication skills to converse and convey about one's country and region in an easy-to-understand fashion. The keywords are to build intellectual foundations, strengthen relations of trust and cooperation,

and create common values and common understandings. In promoting the development of an "Network of intelligence in East Asia" from the bilateral relations of sister-city programs and friendship-city programs, the liberal arts need to be established and opportunities for studying religion, language, history, cultural backgrounds and traditions must be offered.

To achieve this, as a first step, we want to explore the development of "places with international environments" where students with diversified cultural backgrounds can gather. We want to support activities that pluralize exchange between universities in East Asia, and create opportunities to study East Asian liberal arts. Of course, this will not be easy, but as a pilot project, we want to propose the East Asia Summer School vision for implementation in the Nara area.

We believe our proposal can solve some of the issues that Mr. Tokunaga posed at the beginning, though one doubt remains. Since the currency crisis, the countries of Asia have promoted internal reforms conscious more of global standards than domestic standards. For example, not only within the region but from Europe, strong questions have been raised about the Chinese yuan. In this context, when it comes to Asia-class human resources that understand a diversity of Asia, is it necessary to premise Asiatic talents? If so, would the world accept them? In other words, if those human resources were developed, where would they be active? That is a lingering question. I would like to hear opinions on this given opportunity.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-2

Discussion



Mr. ANZAI, Yuichiro
Executive Advisor for Academic Affairs, Keio University / Former President, Keio University /
Advisor, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology



Mr. ITO, Tadamichi
President, Nara Prefectural
University



Mr. HORIBA, Atsushi
Chairman, President & CEO,
HORIBA Ltd.



Mr. ENDO, Yasuhiko
President, Institute of Local Finance



Ms. KIMURA, Yoko
Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Council
of Local Authorities for International Relations



Mr. SHINOZAWA, Kyosuke
President, Capital Markets Research
Institute



Mr. HAYASHI, Yasuo
Chairman and CEO, Japan External
Trade Organization (JETRO)

Discussion 1

Discussion 1 followed the keynote lecture by Mr. TOKUNAGA, Tamotsu and presentations by Kumamoto Prefecture and Kashihara City. It covered activities, challenges and future outlooks for international youth exchange.

While acknowledging the large number of talented youth especially in the fields of sports and art, Mr. HORIBA, Atsushi expressed his fear, as a representative of a large company with vast operations overseas and a head office in Kyoto, of the inadequate system for developing elite in the world of academics and learning because of the current trend against “competitiveness.” He added that leadership and communication skills would be important going forward and that Japan would have trouble developing as a whole unless it constructively participates in decision-making processes around the world. He also expressed his hope in various forms of development from the cooperation between the economic world and local governments.

Mr. ANZAI, Yuichiro expressed his expectations in local governments to provide opportunities for children and young people from the area to be active and interactive. He also shared his opinions that, in Japan, an increasing number of young people have reservations about going abroad for study, etc. He felt that, though local governments are behind a great deal of the youth exchanges, their efforts are not really seen. Also, because of the rich diversity of Asia, he noted that it is extremely important for everyone to have a common understanding of history and culture, and that more so people should keep in mind that this common understanding should be linked to sustainable exchange.

Mr. ITO, Tadamichi pointed out the importance of an East Asian viewpoint and different cultures coming in contact with each other in terms of international exchange, which this congress enabled. He commented that, while globalization advances on the one hand, localization and regionalism are garnering interest on the other. According to a 2003 Asia Barometer opinion survey, the youth of Asia are in general highly conscious of their respective nationalities, but their consciousness as Asians varies widely from country to country. People could take part in future exchanges in Asia with a shared international way of thinking if they can understand each other’s cultures and find common ground. Ito suggested that, since not only state governments but also local governments should play a role in international exchanges and many of the future international exchanges will be between multiple nations, those kinds of opportunities and programs should be provided. He also expressed his wishes for this congress to continue because the most important aspect of international exchange is not the acquisition of knowledge but the experiences gained from interacting with one another.

Also, Chairman Hayashi of JETRO explained from his position of providing business support in Washington and New York that the work of local governments in enabling relations between individuals and peoples truly deepens the relations between two countries the most and serves as a base for building a future. He emphasized the importance of local governments mobilizing

minds with the support of central governments for the purpose of strengthening relations because exchange on the local level is a critical tool for the future of young people.

Lastly, Chairperson Kimura of the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations expressed her respects to local governments for making continuous efforts with international programs despite their difficult financial situations. She also conveyed her opinion that, in Japan where the population is sharply decreasing, it is essential to continuously remind the next generation on the grassroots level to coexist alongside foreigners and provide them with opportunities to experience that.

Discussion 2

Discussion 2 included reports from Gyeongsangbuk-do Province and Nara Prefecture, and across-the-board opinion exchanges on matters discussed in this session.

The discussion began with the dilemma noted by Nara Prefecture of “how to balance the values and standards of East Asia with globalization and whether there were East Asian values and standards worth saving.” In response, Mr. TANINO, Sakutaro claimed that there were undeniably East Asia values and standards worth saving but that East Asia has in recent years not said enough as Western systems have been introduced for corporate law, internationalized accounting practices and business governance. He called for the realization of the East Asia Summer School proposed by Nara Prefecture.

Mr. ANZAI, Yuichiro was agreed with him, calling for a summer school that would be more than “about meeting others” by providing truly life-shaping experiences. He acknowledged the need for exchange in the fields of economics, politics, history and culture because the time is coming where young people will have to think about Asia as a whole in order to survive. Other panelists also agreed with the East Asia Summer School and hoped for its realization. Vice Governor Kubota of Nara Prefecture expressed his wishes that the summer school curriculums include language training in each Japanese, Chinese and Korean.

Mr. HORIBA, Atsushi acknowledged the importance of new programs such as the summer school, but he also pointed out the importance of verifying grassroots activities of local governments and charitable organizations, and continuing them on a basis of a greater philosophy so that countries and Asia could efficiently improve the results as a whole. He also expressed his opinion with regard to globalization that a solid background as a Japanese was essential and that elementary and junior high schools need to accurately teach the history and features of the country.

Former Vice-Minister Shinozawa of Ministry of Finance expressed his opinion that, given that globalization will impact all of mankind, it was necessary to develop Japanese and people in Asia capable of acting in any situation and that it was important to continuously promote activities on the local level no matter how modest. He also noted that, though a difficult task, efforts were needed to understand each other’s histories.

Former Vice-Minister Endo of Ministry of Home Affairs expressed his hopes of further gatherings by the local governments of East Asia. He explained that past connections between governments were linear in nature, as seen by sister-city agreements, therefore it was extremely important to expand the breadth of relations to building networks. The key would be just how deep the relationships between people go so that meetings are more than just talk. Endo noted the same applied to youth exchanges and explained that it was very important for Asia in that creating relationships between people would enable local governments to speak frankly to one another and share information.

Governor Kabashima of Kumamoto Prefecture introduced the international exchange programs of his prefecture. Kumamoto Prefecture has a sister-province agreement with the Guangxi Autonomous Region and has been exchanging with them for over 28 years. That has led to mutual benefits for both sides via visitors both ways in recent years. He emphasized the need for networks like this because “persevering through difficulties makes one stronger,” adding that international exchange must continue beyond political platforms, and support from the financial world is a factor of success with exchanges.

Ambassador Vice Governor Son of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province pointed out that cooperation was needed in economics, culture and ethics in order to develop global standards and that open-minded, efficient and productive cooperation between Asian nations was the starting point to that. He stressed that understanding and communication are important for this. He added that, for the next generation to have dreams, share those dreams and create a world of that kind of affluence, it is necessary for them to understand each other’s differences, talk about each their own dreams, understand the dreams of others, enhance their sensitivities and produce a synergetic effect. He expressed his opinion that it was the job of our generation to provide opportunities of discussion at the East Asian Summer School that would contribute to this.

Lastly, Vice Governor Kubota stated that it was necessary to think about not just developing human resource but also mobilizing them, and that the first step to youth exchange was to find points of common interest and that, as support for that, cooperation was needed from the private sector and a common understanding of history and common values would have to be created.

Summary of Regional Report Theme-2

Summary Mr. TANINO, Sakutaro



The discussions on the importance of youth exchange in East Asia were very animated and rich in content. I would like to summarize a few things that I feel.

When pondering the future of East Asia, youth exchange strikes me as very important. Building bridges between Japan and China, between Korea and Japan, and between Korea and China is the job of today's young people. Unfortunately, a sense of mutual trust and affinity in East Asia has yet to develop to wishful levels. "Mutual understanding" is deepened through exchange and the "mutual trust" that is lacking today is born from mutual understanding. On the issue of national security, a country needs a physical army that can protect it, but building relations of trust is vital not only to getting along with others but for ensuring a nation's security. This is one area where greater effort is needed.

In Europe, which had been through two major wars, the Elysee Treaty was signed by Germany and France in 1963. The crux of that treaty was youth exchange, which is at the level of 140,000 persons annually between the two countries. Though late in coming, PM Abe's administration launched the Japan – East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths in 2007 to deepen exchange with youth in Japan by inviting 6,000 young people from East Asia to Japan. The most, at about 4,000 a year, come from China, while China invites about 1,000 Japanese high school students every year. Besides this, there are many exchange programs without government funding, which, though collectively, would be far from 140,000 persons. Germany and France continue even today to support their programs at the highest governmental level. And, similar exchanges are underway between Germany and Poland.

During his May visit to Japan, Premier Wen Jiabao invited Japan's youth to the Shanghai World Expo and plans were made to send about 1,000 people. However, the trip was suddenly canceled just a few days prior to departure because of current relations between Japan and China. I find it very regrettable that politicians would stick their hands into such an important youth exchange activity.

Throughout the long road to European unification, there has been strong political will and leadership at the highest level to move the process along. The Elysee Treaty was signed by General De Gaul and Chancellor Adenauer. Unfortunately, East Asia lacks this. Having seen this so much, I believe there is value in restudying European history. There is much that East Asia can learn from the path that Europe has followed.

As Mr. Horiba pointed out, it is very important to verify what has come before us and learn those lessons when it comes to East Asia Summer School or consortiums of East Asian universities. As a pretext to that, concrete links are needed. What are we going to incorporate into the Nara Charter and joint statements next year and beyond? This is the job of Nara Prefecture. Since Japan learned much from the Chinese mainland and Korean Peninsula in the ancient times of East Asia, I would like to see school exchanges and summer school programs typical of Nara that use this as the starting point for youth exchange.

As a final note, it was said that Japan's youth are introverted. Honestly, even the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, my old workplace, could not deny that. Japan is very different in this respect from neighboring Korea and China. Nonetheless, Japan has many good points, too. According to a survey by Newsweek magazine, Japan was rated the best place to live amongst countries with a population of 50 million or more. Japan is tops in terms of security and sanitation, and has a rich cuisine and numerous advanced technologies worth vaunting to the world. Japan isn't all bad. We need to refresh our spirits, restore our confidence, stop crying and get involved with exchanges unashamedly.

Mr. Horiba also spoke about English proficiency. Children in Chinese cities start learning English from the third grade of elementary school. Japan may finally start doing this, too. Conservatives call for Japanese before English, but learning English does not mean Japanese will be neglected. Here's an interesting story: A young Japanese person in New York was transported to a hospital because of a traffic accident and, when the doctor asked, "Oh, my goodness! My poor boy, how are you?" He answered just like they had taught him in school: "I'm fine, thank you, and you?" It's horrifying that Japanese jokes like that are going around the USA. Japan's youth need also to improve their debating skills and learn to speak out. This is another challenge that needs to be faced.

I greatly appreciate the active discussions by everyone.

The First East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

Commemorative Lectures



Summary of Commemorative Lectures

In commemoration of the establishment of this Congress, a commemorative lecture were given on the present and future of East Asia, by Yukio Okamoto, Representative Executive of Okamoto Associates, Inc. and Lee O Young, Initial Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, with involvement by general participants.

- Date and Time : Thursday October 7, 2010, 17:00 – 18:30
- Participants : Participating local and regional governments, Steering Committee, Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Consul-Generals in Osaka of participating nations, applicants from the general public, etc.
- Venue : Nara Prefectural New Public Hall 1st Floor Noh Theatre
- Program of events :

Lecture I : Mr. OKAMOTO, Yukio

Representative Executive of Okamoto Associates, Inc.

“Looking ahead into the Future of East Asia”

Lecture II : Mr. LEE, O Young

Chairman, Steering Committee / Initial Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea / Honorary president, Nara Prefectural University

“The Potential and Prerequisites for an Asian Cultural Community”

Looking ahead into the Future of East Asia

Representative Executive of Okamoto Associates, Inc. **Mr. OKAMOTO, Yukio**



I view this East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress as a very significant gathering. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, there was a seminar in Aspen, Colorado (USA) that gathered Nobel Prize winners and then Cabinet members to talk about the post-Cold War world. There was a common understanding that we were at the biggest turning point in the prior 300 years and that not only sovereign states but also regional governments, local communities, international organizations, businesses and people would steer world politics from there forward. Owing to IT, the individual has been empowered and a new sense of community has begun. But, it is no easy task to accurately select information from some several million search results. In that situation, a story has to be created to narrow down the answer, but past experiences are what serve you in doing that. IT is mastered entirely by personal experience. In other words, the combination of tradition and new technology is your most formidable weapon. Japan has solid traditions and many well-established businesses. Of the world's 5,500 businesses that were founded more than 200 years ago, 56% are Japanese. Though this owes to Japan's stable society and the mutual aid structure of the economy, the real strength is demonstrated in how new things are added on top of that.

Ten years ago, industrially advanced nations accounted for 64% of the global wealth, but a reversal of positions is predicted to come in 2014 because of the progress made by emerging nations. Within that, the progress of Asia has been marked, but all of the nations that are currently enjoying economic development have large populations. In the world of economics, potential growth is expressed as population growth plus productivity growth, but since the spread of IT has smoothed productivity growth, the only thing swaying potential growth is population growth. Japan used to be by far the top manufacturing nation in the world with great technological prowess in mold manufacture and so forth, but since IT made everything digital, practically the same products can now be made anywhere in the world. In addition, the diffusion of globalized learning has greatly shrunk the technological gap around the world. As a result, nations with a high population growth rate will have a high potential growth rate.

Moreover, in recent years, the diversity connotation has emerged as yet another growth paradigm. It is common knowledge the world-over that a nation's strength is judged by whether it can integrate the diversity it introduces.

Environments have changed drastically on a backdrop of these changes in growth paradigms. The world's population increased to 1 billion over the 6,000 to 7,000 years from the start of recorded history to the beginning of the 19th century, but what is alarming is that population increased another 3.8 billion in just the 50 years since 1960. These drastic changes have markedly changed environments, therefore rules need to be changed alongside that. These rule changes are important towards achieving breakthroughs in social and technological development. In the process of unifying 27 nations, the EU has already created thousands of rules and the multiracial USA has, needless to say, excelled at making rules. However, being of a single race and not having any particular need to make new rules, Japan is pretty far behind in this respect. Having this opportunity of the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress, everyone can bump heads and resonate as we build a new platform. I view this as a very valuable opportunity for Japan.

The most important thing in East Asia is, without saying, peace. East Asia basically maintains the same structure as the Cold War, therefore, unless decisions and efforts are continuously made with a sense of crisis, instability in any given moment would come as no surprise. Not until differences are solved, which requires us to build trust a little at a time, and all of East Asia converges in a democratic direction can peace be ensured by collective security. Nevertheless, this is highly unlikely today if the coordination work is left entirely to central governments. As I mentioned, this is no longer an age when sovereign nations alone build peace; peace can only come when regional governments, local communities, international organizations, businesses and people unite.

Unfortunately, Japan is losing its competitive edge, but she is likely to continue as a leader of Asia as long as she retains technological strengths, determination, earnestness and tenacity at her roots. That will demand of us to view Asia as one single market. Segregation has progressed after the Cold War structure, but integration is now becoming important. The age has come that unity is forged via discussions by persons of different nations at congresses such as this, and that unity can move central governments. In that sense, I have high expectations in everyone.

Summary of Commemorative Lectures

The Potential and Prerequisites for an Asian Cultural Community

Chairman, Steering Committee / Initial Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea /
Honorary president, Nara Prefectural University **Mr. LEE, O Young**



The relations between Japan, China and Korea are ancient, but only recently have people begun to look at Asia as a single country. The origin of the name “Asia” is “assia,” which was a corrupted version of the term “asu,” meaning “where the sun rises,” found in an Assyrian inscription. That was conveyed to Greece where they say it became “Asia” in contrast to “Europa,” which meant where the sun sets. In short, the name does not come from the Asian region. The idea of an East Asian Cultural Community is that community relationships appear naturally when, by calmly observing oneself, one discovers common interests in Asia by oneself without others imposing it. This word “interest” is born from the concept of “inter” or between two things. Nonetheless, if the target of this “interest” is political power or temporary economic profit, it will lead only to conflict and the sustainable relationships that hold a cultural community together cannot be expected.

Just prior to his death, the poet Basho Matsuo wrote the haiku “Autumn has deepened, I wonder what the man next door does for a living.” Before the cold of winter, all people are curious about others and considerate towards them; this can be said about countries as well. In other words, the summer of prosperity has ended and today in Japan we welcome the autumn of a global recession. In times of crisis, you cannot survive on your own. Sadness ties neighboring countries in body and soul. Once upon a time, a thriving Nara capital had global vigor when Japan, China and Korea combined their forces. Behind the Great Buddha of Todai-ji Temple was Gyoki, a descendant of Baekje Kingdom, and Horyu-ji Temple has beautiful vestiges left by Damjing. However, having transitioned from plums to cherries, a post-Nara Japan pursued a long dark history of war with the mainland and plundering of nations.

Geographically speaking, China is the mainland, Japan is an island and Korea is an peninsula, hence having nothing in common. But, these three countries were able to build a single East Asian culture because the peninsula nation of Korea was in-between the mainland nation of China and the island nation of Japan. Without Korea, China and Japan may have clashed head-on in major war. While the electricity flowed from the mainland to the island and from the island to the mainland, the Korean Peninsula served as a transformer. And, Korea played the role of cushion when political discord arose.

Culturally, Japan, China and Korea have commonalities and have pursued the same ideals. So, despite the painful memories, it has been possible to gather here today. Metaphorically, in the famed Judgment of Solomon, Solomon orders that the child claimed by two women to be split in half in order to determine who is the real mother. But, if this story is applied to China, Korea and Japan, the judge would order the child to be pulled from both sides. This story is a direct representation of the differences between Western and Eastern thought. I personally view this as the source for developing a cultural community in Asia.

Let me introduce another haiku: “When I look carefully, I see the shepherd’s-purse blooming by the hedge.” It lauds the power of life of the shepherd’s-purse, which is so small, it goes unnoticed unless you look hard. In other words, it is saying that, unless we throw away prejudice and look at each other squarely, the cultural pipeline will not be born. The secret to forming a cultural community is to passionately look at the small wild flowers rather than the blooms that represent each country. Another common point of the three countries is that they all use chopsticks. Those in Japan have a pointy tip because they eat fish. Those in China are long because they eat at large tables. Those in Korea are made of metal because spoons are used for the often served soup. There is an explanation for everything. If that can be understood, differences can be taken positively and the cultural quality can be enhanced.

Goethe wrote a poem after interpreting Asian thought as a ginkgo leaf. The ginkgo leaf looks split in two, but it is actually one. Finding this mysterious, Goethe saw the sagacity to fuse into one that which seems separate as Oriental. As Goethe saw it, this vague gray zone is what raised Eastern culture. Universalism seeks only homogeneity, while relativism seeks heterogeneity, but taking sameness as a pretext discovers differences, and sameness is found because there are differences. There is a poem that goes “The cherries of Yoshino, something I would show even to someone from China.” It can be interpreted to mean that “I want to share the same culture,” but some may view it as being based on supremacist thinking, as in “China does not have something as beautiful as this.” The destiny of a future Asian community can be said to ride on the interpretation of this poem.

The paper-scissors-stone game that originated in Asia differs from the coin toss of the West. Whereas the latter is a pyramid where one person wins, the former is a complementary cycle of winning and losing. Undoubtedly, paper-scissors-stone is based on the Eastern thought espoused by the principles of Yin and Yang. Korean chestnuts are big, but a large portion of them is eaten by insects. Insects do not eat Japanese chestnuts, but they do not taste good. China’s chestnuts taste good, but they are small. An institute of forestry in Korea used these chestnuts to produce a new variety that is tasty, large and strong against insects. In the same way, if these three countries can make up for each other’s weaknesses and promote each other’s strengths, the axis of world peace and prosperity will point to East Asia.