Training of Young Leaders in Cultural Heritage Protection in Asia and the Pacific  
(Nara, 10 -20 November 2008)

General Information

1. Background

Within the framework of the “International Exchange Programme between Japan and Other UNESCO Member States for the Promotion of International Cooperation and Mutual Understanding”, the Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office, Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (hereinafter referred to as “ACCU Nara”) will organise the “Training of Young Leaders in Cultural Heritage Protection in Asia and the Pacific”(hereinafter referred to as the “Programme”) mainly in Nara from 10 to 20 November 2008 for 11 days, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan, the Nara Prefectural Government and the Nara Municipal Government.

As the ninth series of the Programme, ACCU Nara invites young professionals in the fields of cultural heritage protection from UNESCO Member States in Asia and the Pacific, to provide them with opportunities for training in cultural heritage protection and exchanging opinions with the young generation of Japan.

Through the Programme, it is greatly hoped that participants will be able not only to grasp the present situation of cultural heritage protection in Japan, but also to obtain useful information, knowledge, and skills to develop measures for protecting cultural heritage in their own countries. It is also expected that people in Japan can enhance their awareness of the importance for protecting precious world cultural heritage through discussions with the overseas’ participants.

2. Provisional Schedule

The Programme will be held from Monday, 10 to Thursday, 20 November 2008 for 11 days.

10 Nov. Participants arrive in Nara (via Kansai International Airport: KIX).
11 ~ 18 Nov. Orientation and various trainings mainly in Nara.
19 Nov. Completion of the assessment reports and discussion of follow-up activities.
20 Nov. Participants leave Japan (via KIX) for their home countries.

Please refer to the attached “Provisional Programme Schedule” for details.
3. Objectives

The Programme aims:

(1) To encourage participants to make effective measures for cultural heritage protection in their home countries by providing participants with the necessary knowledge and information through the training, and

(2) To promote international exchange and mutual understanding between young generations in Japan and the overseas’ participants.

4. Theme

Cultural Heritage Protection

5. Activities

The training curriculum will be conducted through lectures and exchange of opinions with Japanese professionals responsible for cultural heritage protection, discussions with university students. Study trips will also be arranged to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Nara and Kyoto.

Since this exchange programme is designed to promote mutual understanding between participants and Japanese people, school visits will also be conducted for interaction with the students.

6. Participation

(1) Number of Participants:
ACCU Nara will invite up to ten participants from among the nominees from away the following 42 countries:

Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyz, Lao P.D.R., Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rep. of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam

(2) Qualifications and Requirements of Participants:
The Participant should:

a. hold citizenship in a UNESCO Member State and not hold Japanese citizenship.

b. be a professional (40 years old or younger as a general rule) in a public or private leading agency/organisation directly responsible for cultural heritage protection in the fields of either administration, education or cultural heritage management.

c. be proficient in English in reading, writing, making presentations and participating in discussion during the Programme. (ACCU Nara Office shall be allowed to utilise all contents of reports, including drawings and photographs, for future publication and cultural heritage protection programme.)
d. be in good health to complete all the activities of the Programme.
e. introduce cultures of their country, such as songs, languages, classic game, cloths, food, in the exchange programme between participants and high school students, local residents.
f. have the capacity and willingness to follow-up with the Programme and act as a bridge between ACCU Nara and their country in the implementation of future projects (i.e. newsletter contributions, research summaries, etc.).

7. Documents for Application and Application Deadline

The following documents for application must reach ACCU Nara by Friday, 29 August, 2008.

(1) Participant’s Data Sheet (Form 1)
(2) Letter of Recommendation by the UNESCO of the participants’ National Commission

Note 1: Applications will not be accepted unless both of documents above are fully and correctly completed.
Note 2: Submitted documents will not be returned to the applicant.

8. Final Decision

ACCU Nara will consider the eligibility of each applicant and will decide on ten successful applicants and notify each National Commission for UNESCO concerned of the selection results by the end of September 2008.

9. Preparatory Work

Each participant is requested to write a report in English on the following topic and submit it to ACCU Nara ensuring that it arrives in Japan by Friday, 24 October, 2008.


The report should be approximately three pages in length on A4 sized paper.

10. Financial Arrangements

ACCU Nara will cover the following expenses:
(1) International Travel: A round-trip economy class air ticket designated by ACCU Nara between the international airport nearest to the participant’s residence in his/her own country and the Kansai International Airport, Osaka.
(2) Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA): A fixed amount of DSA to cover participant’s food and lodging from 10 to 20 November. ACCU Nara will arrange accommodation for participants.

Note: Items not listed above will be borne by the participants themselves.
11. Insurance

Please bear in mind that ACCU Nara will not provide participants with medical insurance or any other kind of coverage. Therefore, it is incumbent upon each participant to ensure that they have the proper insurance coverage prior to entering Japan.

12. Correspondence

All correspondence concerning the above programme should be addressed to:

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