The Japan Institute of Architects

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ARCASIA (ACA-16) Council Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
June 25 and 26, 2014
1. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Japan Institute of Architects (JIA) is Japan’s only professional organization of architects. Its principal role is to define and promote the social and legal status of professional architects in Japan.

Following seventy years of efforts on the part of our predecessors to establish the profession of architecture in Japan, the JIA was founded in May 1987. It started by unifying two formerly individual associations that shared the same ideology: The Japan Architects Association (JAA) and The Japan Federation of Professional Architects Association (JFPAA).

As an association of free and independent architects, the JIA is striving to create a greater understanding of the field of architecture within Japanese society, and to establish a firm social foundation and recognition for its members and their foreign counterparts worldwide.

2. CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS

Officers representing the JIA for the fiscal year 2014 (2014/06/27 -2016/06/30) are:
Mr. Taro Ashihara   President
Mr. Nobuo Mori   First Vice President
Mr. Toshio Matsumoto   Vice President
Mr. Yutaka Uenami   Vice President
Mr. Mitsuo Henmi   Vice President
Mr. Nobuya Tsutsui   Executive Director
Mr. Yoshimitsu Nouse   Auditor
Mr. Mitsuyoshi Yamamoto   Auditor

3. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH (as of April 1, 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
<th>ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE (x10^3 JPY)</th>
<th>TOTAL(x10^3 JPY)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Member</td>
<td>4,298</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>193,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Member</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Member</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Member</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>4,339</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Variable according to local chapters’ rules

4. BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE

Operational funding for the JIA is generated from the assessment of membership fees, admission fees, sales of JIA publications and registration fees paid by both members and non-members for participation in various activities.

In April 2005, the JIA annual membership fee was dramatically reduced by one half to encourage the acquisition of young new members. In April 2011, however, JIA raised the fee to strengthen its financial position.
5. NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

The JIA has ten regional chapters located throughout Japan: Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto-Koshinetsu, Tokai, Hokuriku, Kinki, Chugoku, Shikoku, Kyushu and Okinawa. Each regional chapter includes district organizations that develop community-based activities of architects.

6. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND NATIONAL CONVENTION

The JIA will hold its 2014 General Assembly in Tokyo on June 27, 2014. The annual JIA National Convention will be held in Okayama from September 25 to 27, 2014.

7. LEGAL STATUS OF THE JIA IN JAPAN

The JIA was incorporated on June 15, 1987 as a Japanese juridical corporation conforming to Article 34 of the Civil Code and approved by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

The current legal status of JIA is an aggregate corporation for public benefit under article 34 of civil code. JIA is now supervised by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

The Japanese government made a radical reform of Public Interest Corporation legal framework in early 2000s, and the Public Interest Corporation laws were promulgated on June 2, 2006. All current aggregate corporations must be reorganized into a “general incorporated association” or into “authorized public benefit corporation (APBC)" by 30th November 2013. Although there are various tax benefits for APBC, there are a variety of new additional requirements for governance and information disclosure. For this reason, many current corporations have decided to become a general entity, rather than to commit as authorized public benefit. (For detail explanation and analysis of public benefit organization in Japan, refer to “Enabling Civil Society in Japan Reform of the Legal and Regulatory Framework for Public Benefit Organizations” by Karla W. Simon, Columbus school of Law).

JIA has been analyzing the pros and cons of these two legal statuses for many years since 2006. It was finally decided to become APBC at the special JIA General Assembly, held in September 2011.

This decision shows the commitment of JIA to serve the public for the promotion and provision of better built environment. JIA is now strongly promoting the concept of “community architect,” in which the architects play a major role in the quality enhancement of local built environment.

As such, JIA became new APBC in 2013.

8. LEGAL STATUS OF ARCHITECTS IN JAPAN

9. REGISTRATION AUTHORITY OF ARCHITECTS IN JAPAN

In Japan, architects are authorized to practice under the “KENCHIKUSHI LAW” (Architect Law) which was enacted in 1950. However, the “KENCHIKUSHI LAW” is applied to both architectural and engineering design, and is fundamentally unique from common architectural regulations established outside Japan.

The Kenchikushi Law was formally amended in January 2007, providing the new additional regulations regarding the qualifications for structural engineer and building mechanical engineers. Also, regular and compulsory training system for the Kenchikushi was introduced. However, the role of an architect under this Kenchikushi law was not amended fully to meet international standards. JIA is continuing its effort to improve the qualification system of architects in Japan.
10. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION OF THE JIA AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The JIA represents “Japan Section” of the International Union of Architects (UIA) as a full member, and has been a member of the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) since 1991.

Additionally, in May 1999, the JIA revised the “Accord of Professionalism” that was concluded with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1989.

The JIA has also exchanged a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage (ASA) in 1993.

In 2003, The JIA exchanged an “Accord on Professionalism” with the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA) and the Korea Institute of Registered Architects (KIRA) respectively.

In 2008, The JIA exchanged an “Accord on Professionalism in Architecture” with the Union of Mongolian Architects (UMA).

The JIA hosted the UIA XXIV Congress and UIA XXV Assembly in Tokyo, Japan in September 2011.

At the end of 2011, the JIA exchanged “Accord on Professionalism in Architecture” with the Architectural Society of China (ASC).

11. MAJOR PROGRAMS OF THE JIA (2013-2014)

(1) General Assembly: June 27, 2014 in Tokyo.

(2) “JIA Young Architect Award” of 2013 (refer to item 13).

(3) “JIA Sustainable Architecture Award” of 2013 (refer to item 13).

(4) “JIA 25 Years Award (2013)” (refer to item 13)

(5) “JIA Architect of 2013,” “JIA Grand Prix” and “JIA Award” (refer to item 13).

12. OUTREACH PROGRAM OF THE JIA

The JIA publishes the periodical “JIA Magazine” on a monthly basis.

13. ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS / AWARDS FOR JAPANESE ARCHITECTS

The JIA awards the “JIA Architect of 2013,” “JIA Grand Prix,” “JIA Award,” “JIA Young Architect Award,” “JIA Sustainable Architecture Award” and “JIA Twenty-Five Year Award” annually. Winners of each award are as follows;

JIA Grand Prix to: Mr. Nobuaki Furuya and Ms. Sachiko Yagi, “Jissen Gakuen Junior & Senior High School, Freedom Learning Manor House”

JIA Award to: ・Mr. Kazuhiro Kojima, Ms. Kazuko Akamatsu, Mr. Masato Araya, “Uto Elementary School”
・Mr. Yasuhiro Yamashita, “Boundary House”
・Mr. Masami Kamata, Mr. Atsuo Maeda and Mr. Yukio Tahara “Preservation & Restoration of the Tokyo Station Marunouchi Building”
・Mr. Tadao Kamei, Mr. Michio Keii, Mr. Shigeru Yoshino, Mr. Ataru Tsuchiya, Mr. Atsuo Konishi and Mr. Tetsuo Tsuchiya, “Tokyo Skytree® Town®”
Grand Prix:
Architects: Nobuaki Furuya, et al.
“Jissen Gakuen Junior & Senior High School, Freedom Learning Manor House”

JIA Award
Architects: Tadao Kamei, et al.
“Tokyo Skytree”

JIA Award
Architects: Masami Kamata, et al.
“Preservation & Restoration of the Tokyo Station Marunouchi Building”

JIA Young Architect Award
Architects: Hisaaki Yaita, et al.
“Patio (Detached house)”

JIA Twenty-Five Year Award
Architects: Tadamasa Kano, et al.
“Harimayahonten Ikuno Head Shop”

JIA Sustainable Architecture Award
Architects: Kazuo Iwamura, et al.
“Deutsche Schule Kobe/European School”
The JIA Young Architect Award (2013) to:

・ Mr. Hisaaki Yaita and Ms. Naoko Yaita, “Patio”
・ Mr. Naoyuki Nagata, “Yo”

The JIA Sustainable Architecture Award (2013) to:

(Building in General: The First Prize)
Mr. Kazuo Iwamura, Mr. Kazumi Tojo, Mr. Ryuichi Ishizaki, “The Deutsche Schule Kobe/European School”

(Residential Projects: The First Prize)
Mr. Masayoshi Takeuchi, Mr. Masataka Baba, Mr. Satoshi Nakamura and Mr. Masahiko Kameoka, “House-M”

The JIA Twenty-Five Year Award (2013) to:

・ Mr. Tadamasa Kano, Mr. Naoki Amano and Mr. Takashi Noda, “Harimayahonten Ikuno Head Shop”
・ Mr. Masakatsu Tokuoka, “Community Center of Shiga Town”
・ Mr. Shigeihiko Sugi, “Daigo Fukuryu Maru Exhibition Hall”
・ Sakakura Associates, “Yokohama Doll Museum”
・ Mr. Shozo Uchii, “Setagaya Art Museum”
・ Mr. Makoto Usui and Mr. Shunjiro Nagasaki, “Yurakucho Center Building (Yurakucho Mullion)”
・ Mr. Hiroshi Ohe, “Kakunodate Kaba Craft Densho-kan”
・ Mr. Masao Shiina and Mr. Makoto Ishii, “Honda Aoyama Builsidng”
・ Mr. Toe Yuizaki, Mr. Hiromi Murayama, Mr. Yasuhiko Kitani and Mr. Tsunekazu Kato, “The Shinjuku Green Tower Building”
・ Mr. Tomoharu Ide, “Hillside Hisasue”
・ Mr. Shin Matsuyama, “Kumamoto Prefectural Library”
・ Mr. Yoshio Muruyama, “Takayanagi Residence by the external insulation block method”
・ Okinawa General Bureau, Cabinet Office and Nihon Sekkei, Inc. “Tropical Dream Center”
・ Mr. Yoshinobu Satoh, Mr. Tadamasu Miura, Mr. Akira Moriyama and Mr. Nobuhiro Kawabe, “The Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu”
・ Mr. Shinichi Okada, “Okayama Prefectural Museum of Art”
・ Mr. Nobuya Ueda and Mr. Takehide Watanabe, “Osaka-jo Hall”

JIA Architects 2013:

100 Japanese architects were selected to be published in the “JIA Architects 2013”, which is the year book of the JIA. The JIA Grand Prix and JIA Awards were selected from the works published in this book.

14. KEY ISSUES FACING ARCHITECTS AND THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

As stated above, current Japanese “KENCHIKUSHI LAW” (translated as “Architects Law”) defines qualifications both for architects and building engineers, which are remarkably different from architectural standards established by most other countries.

Consequently, the JIA has developed in December 2003, a system known as the Qualification System of Architects in Japan. Additionally, within this context, the JIA has instituted a “Continuing Professional Development” system that is based on the UIA Accord on Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice.
14-1. REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

The Qualification System for JIA Registered Architects was approved by JIA at its general assembly in May 2003, as a certification system that meets or exceeds the standards stipulated by the UIA Accord. The Council of Architect Certification was established soon afterward.

To be certified as a JIA registered architect under this system, current certification as a First Class Kenchikushi in combination with five years of practical experience is required. For a new architect, completion of the JIA practical training program is required for certification.

A JIA registered architect who intends to renew his/her registration must acquire a minimum of 108 CPD (Continuing Professional Development) credits over three years. In Japan, there are some other architectural institutions in addition to the JIA, and the JIA’s intention is to establish commonality by having these other institutions adopt the Qualification System for Architects as well.

14-2. JIA CPD

The JIA established the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system for JIA members in April 2002. All JIA members are requested to acquire 108 CPD credits for 3 years. One credit is approximately equal to one hour of training. Currently, there are two ways to acquire credits: (1) participate in a program accredited by the JIA CPD Council, or (2) obtain credits through self-motivating training programs. Since JIA members are dispersed across Japan, the JIA places particular importance on self-motivating training.

Generally speaking, training can be categorized into four categories: (1) the social role of an architect, (2) improved practical ability as an architect, (3) improvement in the ability to manage a project, and (4) management of an architectural firm.

Because the JIA established the Qualification System for JIA Registered Architects in 2003 and acquiring CPD credits is mandatory for all registered architects, CPD for JIA members is recommended now.

15. QBS (QUALIFICATION BASED SELECTION) IN JAPAN

In Japan, competitive bidding remains the accepted practice for selecting an architect for public works projects. This is especially true among local governments, where architects selected through a bidding process design more than 80% of all public buildings. The reason for this is that bidding is a comparatively easy selection process. Other selection practices, such as design competitions, place an additional burden on clients in terms of time and cost. However, there is growing concern over the quality of public buildings in Japan, and the JIA believes that improvements in quality cannot be achieved through the practice of bidding.

The JIA has been actively encouraging local governments to adopt Qualification Based Selection (QBS), a system that has been adopted by many countries, as a measure of an architect’s ability. The JIA is willing to dispatch experts in building design to act as QBS judges when required to explain the procedures of QBS. Consequently, the JIA is confident in its ability to provide practical examples of selecting an architect through QBS.

16. RESOURCES OF THE JIA

Although established in 1987, the JIA has not yet accumulated significant assets. However, the JIA is striving to further develop the “JIA Architects International Fund” (established in 1992) with the goal of improving international communications among architects in the future.
17. OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES

17-1. EARTHQUAKE

Three years have passed since the Great Earthquake hit the East Japan region on March 11, 2011. JIA still keep working on disaster relief activities voluntarily and performs the damage investigation into cultural assets and heritage building with the local government and the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Such initiatives will be reported at international opportunities including UIA2014Durban under the title of “Beyond Disasters.”

17-2. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1) The third attempt of the international exchange program, “East-East 4,” was carried out from September 23 to September 27, 2013. In this event, Japanese architects and 7 students visited Lithuania, and the students’ workshop, lectures, and architecture exhibitions between Japan and Lithuania were held.

2) Based on the success of UIA2011Tokyo, a new organization, Japan Supporting Board for International Activities of Architecture (JSB), was established in early 2013 with the aim of supporting students of architecture and young architects to encourage them for taking initiative of international activities. In 2013-2014, the following three projects were or are being executed with a great success.

-Select and send two young architects to the Tri-continental Master in Advanced Architectural Design, hosted by Madrid European University (Jan.–Sep. 2014). Related tuition fee is paid by JSB.

-Select and support international programs arranged by students of architecture or young architects. JSB provides grant to each selected program.

-Exchange young professionals, wishing to work in architectural firms for one year (Thailand and Japan for the term 2014–2015). JOB helps the applicants find relevant firms.

3) ARCASIA Gold Medal Award: Mr. Keisuke Maeda, a JIA member architect, won the Gold Medal in 2012 as well as in 2013 consecutively.

Awards ceremony 2013 in Kathmandu

17-3. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The JIA has positively promoted the social responsibilities of architects on a variety of issues ranging from the global environmental and urban development for improving living conditions and providing consulting services for citizens with problems at the local level.

These activities are intended not only to address current issues among the adult population, but also to acquaint the younger generation – who hold Japan’s future in their hands – with such issues. In this regard, the JIA is planning fundamental programs that will support educational institutions.
17-4. ACTIVITIES FOR THE AMENDMENT OF KENCHIKUSHI LAW

Due to problematic issues resulting from 1st class Kenchikushi in 2005, both the Japanese Government and the National Assembly enacted amendments to the Kenchikushi Law. The president of the JIA was invited by the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism to participate at the round table discussion, “Fundamental System Work Program of the Architecture Department of the Social Infrastructure Council.” At this discussion, the JIA insisted that the current “Kenchikushi Law” should be amended to better satisfy the needs of society and assure the quality and safety of architecture.

In August 2008, the details of the Kenchikushi Law were announced to be amended. (Refer to the attached document “Details of the Amendment to Kenchikushi Law”) The JIA is still involved in discussions toward finalizing details of the amended law.

17-5. ARCASIA PRESIDENT FROM JIA

In 2009, the JIA nominated its member, George Kunihiro, FAIA, to the position of the president, ARCASIA. Mr. Kunihiro was elected in the 30th Council Meeting of the ARCASIA held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, for the term of 2011-2012.

He fulfilled his mission very passionately and contributed to further strengthening the warm friendship among the ARCASIA community.

During his term of the presidency, the JIA has fully supported Mr. Kunihiro and his efforts to execute his office service.

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