Bid for

8th World Archaeological Congress

WAC-8

in

KYOTO

Bid Committee for WAC-8 KYOTO
Bid for WAC-8 in KYOTO

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Kyoto is a city of history and culture and is home to a large number of traditional townhouses, temples and gardens, many of which are not only Japanese National Treasures but are also listed as World Heritage sites. Every year Kyoto welcomes numerous tourists from all corners of the world.

We would also like to emphasize that Kyoto is a city of learning. We have thirty seven universities and junior colleges within Kyoto city, and per person, this ranks Kyoto as the highest amongst Japan’s major cities. The number of students per 10,000 people in Kyoto city reaches 950, also making it the top in Japan. The oldest chair of archaeology in Japan was established by Kosaku Hamada at Kyoto University in 1916.

The social significance of archaeology is increasingly being discussed in Japan in the aftermath of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Tohoku. While fortunately, Western Japan including Kyoto was spared the effects of the earthquake, all Japanese archaeologists and students need to be involved in the restoration of cultural properties and the excavation of sites in areas under reconstruction.

This campaign to rescue cultural heritage imperiled by a widespread natural disaster might well be a first for archaeologists in the world in terms of its scale and kind, and this experience will allow archaeology to mature more and take on an expanded role in society. We believe holding the 8th World Archaeological Congress in Japan at this time will allow us to share what we have learnt and consult with our colleagues from abroad. Finally, Japan had the experience of hosting the WAC Inter-congress Osaka in 2006, in which there were some 400 participants from 27 countries. It was very fruitful for both Japanese archeologists and WAC members. We deeply wish to expand on the international relationships which grew out of that event in our Kyoto WAC.

We believe that these factors count strongly towards Kyoto being one of the most suitable cities in the world to host a World Archaeological Congress.

**Seigo Wada**
The president of the bid committee for WAC-8 Kyoto
Professor, Ritsumeikan University
A member of the Kyoto City Committee for the Protection of Cultural Properties
World Archaeological Congress  
Flinders University  
Archaeological Department  
GPO Box 2100  
Adelaide 5001  
Australia  

November 2012  

Dear Member,  

It is my pleasure and great honour, as Mayor, to invite the World Archaeological Congress to be held in Kyoto in 2016. I would like to introduce briefly some of the attractions of my city.  

Kyoto is the ancient imperial capital of Japan and is recognised worldwide as being the country's historical, cultural and spiritual heart. The city lies atop countless archaeological treasures and many of the country's most valuable finds have been here. Furthermore, the vast number of shrines, temples, and architectural masterpieces that include fourteen listed UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites each reflect the legacy of the myriad of Japanese traditions that were born here. It is this ingrained culture of innovation that sets Kyoto apart and provides the perfect environment for more than 37 institutions of higher learning and a plethora of research facilities to move the city forward as an academic and scientific centre. As a consequence many of Japan's brightest academics are active here.  

I am confident that Kyoto is a most suitable venue for your meeting. Convenient access is facilitated by flights from around the globe to Kansai International Airport; and our subway system provides easy travel from the conference site to hotels and sightseeing points of interest. Kyoto has been welcoming travellers throughout its history and is thus the right choice for welcoming archaeologists from our Asian neighbours.  

On behalf of all Kyoto citizens, I extend a cordial invitation to you and your delegates to experience Kyoto, where traditional and modern Japan flourish in delightful harmony. We look forward to welcoming the World Archaeological Congress in 2016.  

Yours faithfully,  

門川 大作  
Daisaku Kadokawa  
Mayor of Kyoto
Local Organizing Committee

Proposed Committee in its format and composition the organizational structure
Members would follow established practice as at previous WAC Congress & to include:

- Conference Patron
- Academic Secretary
- Fundraising Secretary
- Conference President
- Academic Programme Secretaries
- Public Relations and Media Liaison

Bid Committee

Bid Committee

president Seigo WADA (Ritsumeikan Univ.)
vice president Takura IZUMI (Kyoto Univ.)
Kazuto MATSUFUJI (Doshisha Univ.)
committee member Shinya FUKUNAGA (OSAKA Univ.)
Tetsuro HISHIDA (Kyoto prefectural Univ.)
Kazuo ICHINOSE (KyotoTachibana Univ.)
Tamiki KUNISHITA (Ryukoku Univ.)
Jonyon KO (Ritsumeikan Univ.)
Mahito UEHARA (Kyoto Univ.)
Kiyohede SAITO (Archaeological Institute of Kashihara)
Ryuichi SAKAI (Nara Univ.)
Kazue SAKO (Kansaigaidai Univ.)
Yoichiro SATO (Research Institute for Humanity and Nature)
Akira MATSU (Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)
Koji MIZOGUCHI (Kyushu Univ.)
Takao UNO (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)

Kyoto archaeologists discussing the bid for WAC-8
Secretariat Members of Bid Committee
Hitoshi FUJII (Educational Board of Kyoto Pref.), Akira FURUICHI (Kobe Univ.),
Takumi FURUKAWA (Educational Board of Kyoto Pref.), Hiroko HASHIMOTO (Primate Research Institute),
Yu HIGASHIKAGE (Archaeological Institute of Kashihara),
Yukishige HIROSE (Osaka center for cultural Heritage),
Akira IGARASHI (Tokyo center for cultural heritage), Tomohiro INOUE (Osaka center for Cultural Heritage),
Atsushi ITO (Kyoto Univ.), Yoichi KAWAKAMI (Archaeological Institute of Kashihara),
Kazutaka KAWANO (Kyushu national Museum), Masako MARUI (Sophia Univ.),
Naoko MATSUMOTO (Okayama Univ.), Jun MITSUMOTO (Okayama Univ.),
Gen MIYOSHI (Educational Board of Osaka Pref.), Kazuo MIYAMOTO (Kyushu Univ.),
Masakage MURANO (The Museum of Kyoto),
Takafumi NIWA (Okayama Univ.),
Takafumi NIWA (Okayama Univ.),
Katsuyuki OKAMURA (Osaka City Cultural Properties Association), Ken’ichi SASAKI (Meiji Univ.),
Ayako SHIBUTANI (National Museum of History and Folklore),
Takumi SUGIYAMA (Archaeological Institute of Kashihara), Yoshio TAJIRI (Kyushu Univ.),
Hiroomo TSUMURA (Doshisha Univ.), Atsushi UEMIHE (Kyoto Univ.),
Tomokatsu UOZU (Otemae Univ.), Tomomitsu UMASE (Heritage manage department of Kyoto City),
Kunihiko WAKABAYASHI (Doshisha Univ.), Ken’ichi YANO (Ritsumeikan Univ.),
Hideo YOSHI (Kyoto Univ.), Kauaki YOSHIMURA (Archaeological Institute of Kashihara)

This bid is being organized and supported by a team of long term members of WAC. Koji Mizoguchi has done a lot of work for WAC meetings, KatsuYuki OKAMURA is an executive member of WAC. Akira MATSUDA is membership secretary chair of student committee. Additionally, most of secretariat members of this bid (listed) have attended major WAC congress.

Our policy for organizing WAC-8 in Kyoto
- We will organize WAC-8 in a do-it-ourselves manner to make things efficient but inexpensive. Our team is comprised on stuff of successive WAC Inter-Congress in Osaka 2006.
- We will support the participation by indigenous groups, students, and archaeologists in disadvantage countries.
- We will make a volunteer network comprised of support stuff, students and young archaeologists.
- We will hold public program before, during and after congress.
- We will prepare Special Symposia Forums on such themes as:
  - Disaster Archaeology: Today for the Future
  - Open Forum on Post-colonial Experiences and Archaeological Practices
DATES

The following dates have been provisionally reserved at Doshisya University: Sunday, 27th August to Saturday, 2nd September 2016 (inclusive). Congress Gala Dinner and Mid Tour Party will be held at Miyakomesse.

*These dates can be extended if required
*All relevant have been held
*These dates do not clash with any international religious or national holidays

PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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| Registration Pre Conference | Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception  
WAC Council Meetings |
| 1         | Workshops and Symposia Sessions/ Keynote Speakers  
WAC Council  
Evening Reception |
| 2         | Workshops and Symposia Sessions/ Keynote Speakers  |
| 3         | Mid Congress Tours  |
| 4         | Workshops and Symposia Sessions/ Keynote Speakers  
Poster Board Presentations  
Congress Gala Dinner |
| 5         | Workshops and Symposia Sessions/ Keynote Speakers  
Poster Board Presentations  
WAC Plenary |
| Post Conference | WAC Council Meetings |

*Program will include networking sessions along with Ethnic Roundtables
*A public program of lectures and information sessions will also be incorporated
*Cultural activities will be an integral part of the congress
WHY JAPAN

1. Social conditions for the conference are excellent in Japan.
   - Cooperative support will be given by the Japanese government under the Visit Japan Campaign
   - Japan is politically stable and the cities here are safe and secure. Delegates will enjoy pristine city streets and excellent transport services. Japan has no political or religious prejudices and offers a warm welcome to all peoples.
   - Japanese meeting facilities and equipment, and congress professionals are of the highest standard.

2. However, we don't believe these are most important reasons. We passionately believe that Japan is the best place in the world to discuss issues directly relevant to and important for the future of archaeology, and indeed, of human beings. We escaped outright Western Colonization in Asia. In reaction to this, we tried to colonize neighbouring countries, which brought tremendous suffering to the people of those nations and to ourselves. We tried to rebuild our identity and our nation after the disastrous defeat in World War II, which led to spectacular success in the protection of ‘our’ past in the form of one of the world largest rescue archaeology organizations and operations.

Now, under the relentless expansion of globalization and neo-liberalism, we are forced to rethink on one hand, the validity of our attitude to our ‘ancestral past’ and to the history of our neighbouring nations, and of our approach to the past in general on the other. We are also confronted with the legacy of the negligence of the past of the indigenous peoples living in Japan, namely the Ainu and Okinawan peoples. Amidst those difficulties, the 3.11 Earthquake and Tsunami struck. This combined disaster is one of the worst in our recent memory, and unprecedented in that it is still literally on-going with the Fukushima-daiichi nuclear power plant disaster not yet fully contained. This is in many ways a unique disaster in its long-term implications, but as a disaster initially caused by a natural event but exacerbated by human factors, something like this can occur anywhere in the world. We are now confronted with such universal issues concerning the legacy of colonialism, our attitude to the past as the source of our self- and national-identity, and how to cope with disasters. We archaeologists have to prepare ourselves to be ready to act responsibly and effectively against those issues, and we are uniquely situated to think hard them and discuss them with a sense of reality and urgency, and with passion.

Without really intending to, we are directly going back to the original spirit of the WAC: not to be afraid of confronting contemporary social issues, and doing it in a way that expands the sphere of our debate involving as many people as possible from the world over. We will organize WAC-8 in a do-it-ourselves manner to make things efficient but inexpensive. Kyoto is ideally suited to the purpose, because the city suffered from many disasters, both human-made and natural, and resurrected itself again and again each and every time. We welcome people from all over the world.

We are ready to welcome you.
WHY KYOTO

1. Kyoto is the most popular, must-see locations in Japan for heritage and museums. As the former capital of Japan, it embodies more than 1,200 years of Japanese history and traditions which includes 17 UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites.

2. Kyoto features archaeological sites spanning from the prehistoric to modern times, so the heritage management of preservation and excavations with modern developments is one of the main themes in such traditional and modern city. Such discussion should be much related with recent WAC’s important issues.

3. The archaeological researchers and students of Kyoto’s many universities and museums are all ready to be organized into support groups for all aspects of the WAC8 meetings. They will be joined by the same support staff who helped make the 2006 WAC Inter-conference a success in Osaka. Finally, we also have a close working relationship with the mass media, which frequently publicizes archaeological and heritage issues, and who could promote WAC8 in Kyoto as it did in Osaka.

4. Kyoto has a long history of hosting world-level meetings and you can expect unrivalled success here.

5. A wide range of accommodation provides, from luxury to budget, caters to all needs. Even participants staying in the lower cost accommodation can expect spotlessly clean rooms with excellent facilities.

6. Trains, coaches and hotel shuttle taxis offer plentiful transport options from the closest gateway, Kansai International Airport. Transit flights from Tokyo Narita Airport to Osaka Itami Airport are also a convenient way to arrive in Kyoto. Once here, Kyoto city transport is a convenient, integrated network of buses, trains and underground (subway).
You can see many archaeological remains of ancient and medieval Kyoto. Additionally, there are many original and reconstructed traditional buildings within the modern landscape. Kyoto is a city of heritage. We conduct numerous excavations of archaeological site and hold activities to show and share their results with general public. Kyoto is the best city to host various discussions about heritage, archaeological sites and traditional landscapes.
We are planning to hold the conference at Doshisha University in central Kyoto City. Doshisha University will offer these halls and session rooms without charge.

**KANBAIKAN** [Doshisha University Imadegawa campus]

Hardy Hall (Theatre Style) [850-1000seats]
Gallery with Hardy Hall [Posters and Exhibition]
Clover Hall [80seats]
Underground meeting room A [96seats]
**Ryoshinkan** [Doshisha University Imadegawa campus]

Concourse Area [Posters and Exhibition]
8-10 Classrooms 50~300 capacity
The floor Space [Posters and Exhibition]

**Congress Party Hall**

We will have Congress Gala Dinner at Miyakomesse (International Convention Center of Kyoto city)
International Access

Kansai International Airport

The closest international gateway to Kyoto is Kansai International Airport. Destinations served by direct flight from Kansai International Airport.

Japan is one of the closest destinations in Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th align="left">Europe to Japan</th>
<th align="left">12 hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td align="left">Hong Kong</td>
<td align="left">13 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td align="left">Singapore</td>
<td align="left">14 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td align="left">Melbourne</td>
<td align="left">21 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td align="left">Johannesburg</td>
<td align="left">9 hours</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>USA West Coast to Japan</th>
<th>10 hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Melbourne</td>
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<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>12 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Access from Other Cities in Japan

Kyoto is so well connected to the rest of Japan that you can choose to land at any of the international gateways around the country. For example a popular route is landing in Tokyo Narita (NRT) and taking a connecting flight to Osaka Itami (ITM). From ITM, Skygate Taxis that take you to your hotel door in about an hour for a fixed price are highly recommended.
Transport to Conference Venue

Kyoto is often referred to as the “30 minutes city”; because most separate destinations are within half an hour of each other.

Two City Subway lines: north-south and east-west, end-to-end in 25 minutes
Subway station signs are marked in English, Chinese and Korean in addition to Japanese. Bus destinations are announced in English.
All bus stops are named and labeled: New comers can easily follow the bus map.
Taxis are plentiful: Licensed tour guide drivers are available

Doshisha University is located in central Kyoto. From there, you can access every type of accommodation in Kyoto city within 15 minutes.
ACCOMMODATION

We have various accommodation in Kyoto City.

[A class] Superior luxury similar to European 4-5 star

Kyoto Brighton Hotel http://www.kyotobrighton.com/  • Imadegawa Sta. 183 rooms
Grand Prince Hotel Kyoto http://www.princehotels.com/en/kyoto/  • Kokusaikaikan Sta. 309 rooms
Hotel Granvia Kyoto http://www.granviakyoto.com/  • Kyoto Sta. 539 rooms
Hatoya Zuihokaku (Inn) http://www.thehatanaka.co.jp/english/index.html  • Kyoto Sta. 51 rooms
Hiragiya (Inn) http://www.hiragiya.co.jp/  • Kyoto Shiyakushomae Sta. 28 rooms
Hyatt Regency Kyoto http://kyoto.regency.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/  • Shichijo Sta. 189 rooms
Hotel Nikko Princess http://www.princess-kyoto.co.jp/english/index.html  • Shijo 219 Sta. rooms
Kyoto Hotel Okura http://okura.kyotohotel.co.jp/english/  • Kyoto Shiyakushomae Sta. 322 rooms
Rihga Royal Hotel Kyoto http://www.rihga.com/kyoto/index.html  • Kyoto Sta. 498 rooms
The Westin Miyako Kyoto http://www.starwoodhotels.com/  • Keage Sta. 515 rooms

[B class] Luxury accommodation

Kyoto ANA Hotel http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/6c/1/en/hd/kstna  • Nijojomae Sta. 303 rooms
Hotel Gimmond Kyoto http://www.gimmond.co.jp/kyoto/english/e_index.html  • Karasuma Oike Sta. 294 rooms
Hearton Hotel Kyoto http://www.heartonhotel.com/hearton_hotel_kyoto.html  • Karasuma Oike Sta. 294 rooms
Karasuma Kyoto Hotel http://karasuma.kyotohotel.co.jp/english/  • Shijo Sta. 255 rooms
New Miyako Hotel http://www.miyakohotels.ne.jp/newmiyako/english/index.html  • Kyoto Sta. 986 rooms
Hotel Monterey Kyoto http://www.hotelmonterey.co.jp/eng/index.html  • Karasuma Oike Sta. 237 rooms

[C class] Standard tourist/business accommodation [90-125 US$ per night]

Arranvert Hotel http://www.aranvert.co.jp/english.htm  • Gojo Sta. 183 rooms
Kyoto Garden Hotel http://www.jcha.or.jp/english/  • Karasuma Oike Sta. 129 rooms
Hotel Heian no Mori Kyoto http://www.heiannomori.co.jp/foreign/english.html  • Kyoto Sta. 161 rooms
Kyoto Kokusai Hotel http://www.kyoto-kokusai.com/e/index.html  • Nijojomae Sta. 274 rooms
Mitsui Garden Hotel Kyoto Sanjo http://www.gardenhotels.co.jp/eng/sanjo/  • Karasuma Oike Sta. 154 rooms
Mitsui Garden Hotel Kyoto Shijo http://www.gardenhotels.co.jp/eng/kyoto/  • Shijo Sta. 105 rooms
Kyoto Tower Hotel http://www.kyoto-tower.co.jp/tower_hotel/english.html  • Kyoto Sta. 292 rooms
Village Kyoto http://hotel-village.jp/kyoto/eng/  • Shijo -Omiya Sta. 81 rooms
[D class]  Great value for money with the spotless-ness that you expect from Japanese service  [75-90 US$ per night]

Daiwa Roynet Kyoto Hachijoguchi  http://www.daiwaroynet.jp/english/index.html Kyoto Sta. 192 rooms
Hotel Unizo Kyoto  http://www.hotelunizo.com/eng/index.html Kyoto Shiyakushomae Sta. 158 rooms
Hotel Vista Kyoto  http://www.hotel-vista.jp/kyoto/index_e.html Kyoto Sta. 215 rooms
Co-op Inn Kyoto  http://www.coopinn.jp/index_en.html Shijo Sta. 13 rooms 1
Court Hotel Shijo  http://www.courthotels.co.jp/kyoto/index.html Shijo Sta. 108 rooms
Kyoto Daichi Hotel  http://www.kyoto-1-hotel.jp/english/index.html Kujo / Kyoto Sta. 165 rooms
Kyoto Daini Tower Hotel  http://www.kyoto-tower.co.jp/daini_tower_hotel/english.html Kyoto Sta. 306 rooms
Heian Kaikan  http://www.heian-kaikan.com/english/index.html Imadegawa Sta. 88 rooms
Hotel Hokke Club Kyoto  http://www.hokke.co.jp/index.php Kyoto Sta. 190 rooms
Hotel Honnoji Kaikan  http://www.honnoji.co.jp/main/index.php Kyoto Shiyakushomae Sta. 71 rooms
Kyoto Horikawa Inn  http://www.horikawa-inn.com Nijojo Sta. 126 rooms
Rhino Hotel Kyoto  http://www.rhino.co.jp/english/index.html Kyoto Shiyakushomae Sta. 55 rooms
Rubino Kyoto Horikawa  http://www.rubino.gr.jp/ Marutamachi Sta. 94 rooms
Hotel Sunroute Kyoto  http://www.sunroute.jp/SunrouteTopHLE.html Gojo Sta. 144 rooms
Toyoko Inn Kyoto Gojo Karasuma  http://www.toyoko-inn.com/e_hotel/00040/index.html Gojo Sta. 164 rooms
Tokyoko Inn Kyoto Shijo Karasuma  http://www.toyoko-inn.com/e_hotel/00053/index.html Shijo Sta. 222 rooms
Toyoko Inn Kyoto Shijo Omiya  http://www.toyoko-inn.com/e_hotel/00027/index.html Shijo-Omiya Sta. 179 rooms
Urban Hotel Kyoto  http://uh-urban.com/kyoto/contents/english/index.html Kuinabashi Sta. 200 rooms
Via Inn Kyoto Shijo Muromachi  http://kyoto.viainn.com/ Shijo Sta. 239 rooms

[E class]  Reasonable price inn  ⋆ single rooms and dormitories  [30-40 US$ per night]

Kyoto Utano Youth Hostel  ⋆ City Bus Sta.
Guest house Kyoto  ⋆ Kyoto Sta.
Guest house Kine  ⋆ Kyoto Sta.
Guest House Rakuen  ⋆ Marutamachi Sta.
Guest House Kobako  ⋆ Kawabata Marutamachi Sta.
Mundo  ⋆ Marutamachi Sta.

And some inn with Ritsumeikan and Kyoto Univ. is available.
TOURS

Kyoto is located in the center of the Kinki region which was the political core of pre-modern Japanese society. As such, you can easily visit many archaeological and historical heritage sites in and around Kyoto city. Those tours can be offered as the Mid-Congress tour or as an optional tour for WAC-8.

The World Heritages and Museums in Kyoto

Kinkakuji-temple, Nijo-castle, Ginkakuji-temple, Nanzenji, Archaeological museum of Kyoto-city, Kyoto University Museum

Yayoi Tombs and Kofun (1st to 6th Century) in Northern Kyoto Prefecture

Oburominami Yayoi Tombs, Akasakaimai Tombs, Ebisuyama-Kofun

Nara: Oldest Capital of Ancient Japan

Heijokyu-palace, Asuka ancient sites, Makimuku site with Hashihaka keyhole-shaped tombs
KYOTO INFORMATION

Kyoto Today

Current population: 1.5 million City centre: Approx. 10 km (6 miles) north-south, 8 km (5 miles) east-west
Situation: Basin surrounded by low mountains west, north & east; gently sloping down from north to south; bisected by crystal clear river Urban layout: grid pattern of bustling streets north-south and east-west; comprehensive and integrated urban transport network; modern buildings bow to the dominance of ancient temples, shrines and dwellings.
Visa to Enter Japan

At the time of writing this bid paper passport holders of approximately 60 countries do not require a visa to enter Japan. For those passport holders that do the organizing committee will provide a letter of invitation as necessary to support the visa applications. The following Ministry of Foreign Affairs website gives a useful introduction to visa procedures.

http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit(visa/)

Costs

Expenses incurred by travelers in Kyoto are on average considerably lower than those of other large cities including Tokyo, New York and London. In fact, travelers are invariably very satisfied with the low prices that Kyoto offers. There is a wide selection of accommodation and dining to meet any budget. Furthermore tipping is not practiced in Japan.
FURTHER BID INFORMATION

Experience

We have experience in hosting international conferences in archaeology in recent years, the WAC Inter-Congress and SEAA Congress are shown below. Those were both successful. Most of colleagues who worked as those conference staff are joining the secretariat of WAC-8 Kyoto.

WAC Inter-Congress in Osaka
12-15 January 2006, Osaka, Japan

Fifth Worldwide SEAA (Society for East Asian Archaeology) Conference
6-10 June, 2012, Fukuoka, Japan

Support

Financial support for WAC-8 will be given by Kyoto Convention Bureau. Organizational and social supports will be given by Kyoto City and Kyoto Prefectural governments. We also have many academic archaeological societies which will support WAC-8 in Kyoto.

Japanese Archaeological Association
The biggest archaeological society in Japan, about 4000 archaeologists are member of it

Society of Archaeological Studies
Another large archaeological society in Japan, over 3000 archaeologists are member of it

The Paleological Association of Japan
Traditional association of archeology and paleology in Kyoto.

We will seek financial support from Japanese organizations as well as long-term WAC supporters, such as the Wenner-Gren Foundation. We will also structure the registration and accommodation costs in order to support participation by students, Indigenous groups and scholars from economically disadvantaged countries.