

Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center

# **2017**

# **Annual Report**

Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center  
(HIECC)

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# History of HIECC

## **The northern regions concept and the establishment of the Northern Regions Center**

The northern regions concept was first introduced in 1971 in the Third-term Hokkaido Comprehensive Development Plan (- 1977), a long-term road map for the development of Hokkaido. This concept aimed to improve Hokkaido's industrial economy, the lives of Hokkaido residents and its culture and advance local development suitable to the northern region through exchanges with the United States, Canada and Northern European countries with highly developed cultures in the same snowy cold climate as that of Hokkaido. As a body to promote this concept, the Northern Regions Research Council was established along with the aforementioned comprehensive development plan. The council was approved as an incorporated body in January 1972, and the Northern Regions Information Center was also established in November 1976. These organizations were developmentally reorganized, and the Northern Regions Center (NRC) was launched in April 1978. NRC developed wide exchange activities that focus on northern regions as a unique international organization with think tank, data bank and exchange functions. In July of the same year, the Northern Regions Exchange Foundation was also established to provide financial support to private exchange programs with northern regions.

## **Expansion of international exchange and cooperation activities**

The marked progress of globalization from the 1990s onward further intensified interdependent relationships in the international community, and raised expectations for international cooperation in local communities.

While maintaining existing relationships with northern countries, NRC also partly revised its articles of incorporation in June 1995 to expand the scope of its activities to other regions.

In line with this revision, NRC was entrusted, in April 1996, with the management and operation of Hokkaido International Centers (Sapporo, Obihiro), which were established by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to accept technical trainees from developing countries. NRC also took charge of the Hokkaido Government's project to accept technical trainees. In March 1998, NRC was recognized as a Local International Exchange Association (one organization for each prefecture or government-designated city) by the Ministry of Home Affairs (the present Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications) to assume a comprehensive and important role in international exchange/cooperation in Hokkaido. NRC incorporated the Hokkaido International Exchange Center for Youth and Women in April 1998, the Hokkaido Overseas Association in July 2006 and the North Pacific Region Advanced Research Center (NORPAC) in April 2010.

## **As a comprehensive center for international activities**

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of its foundation in April of 2008, NRC established a committee to consider the future direction of NRC. The committee then compiled a report on future goals and activities in response to current demands to position NRC as a comprehensive center for international activities in Hokkaido.

In the ordinary General Assembly meeting in May 2010, the Northern Regions Exchange Foundation was changed into the International Exchange Foundation to expand the target areas of exchange programs eligible for financial support from northern regions to the entire world. In addition, a member system for students was newly established to expand the membership.

## **Transition into a public interest incorporated association and change of the name**

During the ordinary General Assembly meeting in May 2011, the proposal to revise its articles of corporation for the transition into a public interest incorporated association was approved, and the Northern Regions Center transitioned into such an association on August 1 of the same year, with the approval of the Hokkaido Governor. The name of the Northern Regions Center was also changed to the Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center (HIECC for short).

Currently, HIECC is actively developing its programs to realize a rich, vigorous regional society through international exchanges and cooperation with countries around the world, while fulfilling its social responsibility as a public interest incorporated association.

### **History**

Apr. 1971:	Northern Regions Research Council established
Jan. 1972:	Approved as an incorporated body by the Prime Minister
Apr. 1978:	Reorganized into the Northern Regions Center
Apr. 1996:	Entrusted with the management and operation of Hokkaido International Centers
Mar. 1998:	Recognized as a Local International Exchange Association by the Minister of Home Affairs
Apr. 1998:	Incorporates the Hokkaido International Exchange Center for Youth and Women
Jul. 2004:	Incorporates the Northern Regions Exchange Foundation
Jul. 2006:	Incorporates the Hokkaido Overseas Association
Apr. 2010:	Takes over the operations of the North Pacific Region Advanced Research Center
Aug. 2011:	Transitions into a public interest incorporated association and changes its name to the Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center

## Organization

HIECC is a public interest incorporated association consisting of 625 corporate and individual members as of March 31, 2017.

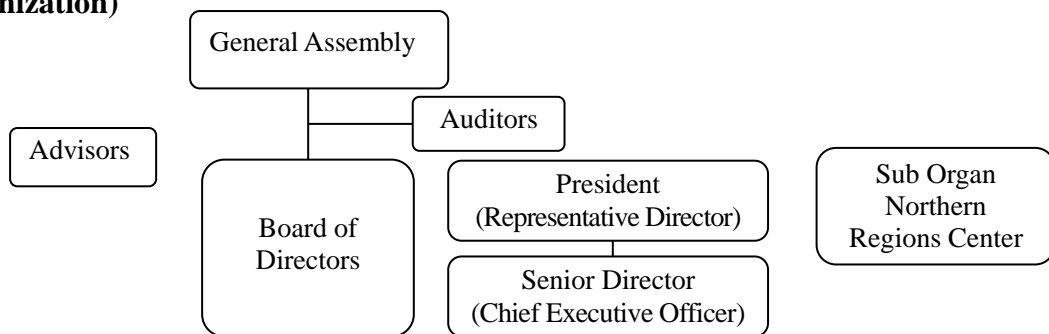
HIECC has a General Assembly consisting of members and a Board of Directors made up of directors selected in the General Assembly.

President (Representative Director), Vice Presidents and Senior Director (Executive Director) are selected by the Board of Directors.

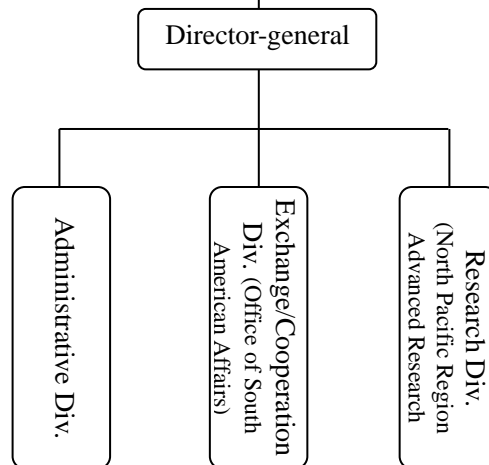
In the system to execute the operations of HIECC, the President controls the operations as a representative of HIECC and the Senior Director takes his/her share of the operations and executes it.

A Secretariat headed by the Director-general is in place as an organization to help execute the operations, and the Secretariat has three divisions – the Administrative, Exchange/Cooperation and Research divisions.

### (Organization)



### (Secretariat)



**Address: West 7 North 3, Chuo-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido (Hokkaido Govt. Annex Bldg. 12F)**

### International Exchange Salon

This salon provides materials relating to international exchange/cooperation bodies in Hokkaido and elsewhere. Commemorative gifts from overseas visitors are also exhibited.



## Advisors and Executive Officers

(As of June 19, 2017)

### Advisors

Hideto Kon	Director-general, Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
Harumi Takahashi	Hokkaido Governor
Ren Endo	Speaker, Hokkaido Legislative Assembly
Hideyoshi Kikuya	President, Hokkaido Association of City Mayors
Takao Tanano	President, Hokkaido Association of Towns and Villages
Yoshiro Ito	Director-general, United Nations Association of Japan, Hokkaido Head Office

### Executive officers

#### President

Toshio Sato	Former Chairman, Sapporo University
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#### Vice Presidents

Yoshihiro Sekihachi	Chairman, Hokkaido Bank, Ltd.
Kazuko Nakata	President, Hokkaido Federation of Women's Organizations
Tsuneo Fujita	President, Hokkaido Canada Society

#### Vice President and Senior

#### Director

Masahiro Echizen	President, Hokkaido Cultural Organization Council
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#### Directors

Tenei Abe	President, Hokkaido Cultural Organization Council
Mitsuo Iguchi	President, Hokkaido Finland Society
Yoshikazu Inoshita	Honorary Consul, Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Latvia in Asahikawa
Susumu Egashira	Vice President, Otaru University of Commerce
Masanori Kasahara	Executive and Vice President, Hokkaido University
Yoshinori Kato	President, Hokkaido Cultural Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (UHB)
Megumi Kawabata	Executive Director and Managing Director, Sapporo International Communication Plaza Foundation
Akihiro Kikushima	President, Hokkaido Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
Hiroaki Kitano	Managing Director, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press Co., Ltd.
Ryu Shibata	Deputy President, North Pacific Bank, Ltd.
Taku Sugimoto	President, Hokkaido Sweden Society
Miho Suzuki	Honorary President, Hokkaido International Women's Association
Hideo Seo	Senior Managing Director, Hokkaido Economic Federation
Seiroku Takizawa	President, Sapporo Trade Association
Tatsumi Tanimoto	Executive Director, Hokkaido Association of Towns and Villages
Minoru Toizumi	President, Hokkaido Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (HTB)
Toyoaki Negishi	President, Sapporo Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (STV)
Kazuo Horiuchi	President, Hokkaido Paraguay Association
Masanori Matsui	President, Television Hokkaido Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (TVh)
Noriyoshi Murakami	Executive Director, Hokkaido Tourism Organization
Masaaki Yoshizawa	Director-general, Hokkaido Association of City Mayors
Rika Yoshino	Director, Hokkaido Branch, The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.
Takashi Watanabe	President, Hokkaido Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (HBC)

#### Auditors

Keiichi Ueda	Ueda Keiichi Certified Public Accountant Office
Kazuhiko Sakamoto	Senior Director, Hokkaido Sports Association

# **FY 2016 Business Outline**

## **Holding of Board of Directors and Ordinary General Assembly Meetings**

### **FY 2016 Business Outline**

#### **Convening Board of Directors and Ordinary General Assembly Meetings**

##### **1. 1st Board of Directors meeting, FY 2016:** May 23 (Mon.), 2016; Hotel Sapporo Garden Palace

###### Proceedings

- Approval of the FY 2015 business report and financial statements as submitted, adoption of a resolution calling for an ordinary General Assembly meeting on June 20

##### **2. Ordinary General Assembly meeting, FY 2016:** June 20 (Mon), 2016; Hotel Polestar Sapporo

###### Proceedings

- Approval of the FY 2015 business report and financial statements as submitted
- Approval of the FY 2016 business plan and budget as submitted
- Appointment of directors and auditors (29 directors and 2 audits)

###### New directors:

Susumu Egashira	Vice President, Otaru University of Commerce
Yoshinori Kato	Managing Director, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press Co., Ltd.
Akihiro Kikushima	President, Hokkaido Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
Masahiro Mori	Senior Managing Director, Hokkaido Economic Federation
Rika Yoshino	Director, Hokkaido Branch, The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.
Hidehiro Wakabayashi	Executive Director and Vice President, Sapporo International Communication Plaza Foundation

###### New auditor:

Keiichi Ueda                      Ueda Keiichi Certified Public Accountant Office

##### **3. 2nd Board of Directors meeting, FY 2016:** June 20 (Mon.), 2016; Hotel Polestar Sapporo

###### Proceedings

- Appointment of the president, vice presidents and senior director

##### **4. 3rd Board of Directors meeting, FY 2016:** March 23 (Thu.), 2017; Hotel Sapporo Garden Palace

###### Proceedings

- Report on programs implemented in FY 2016
- Approval of the FY 2017 business plan and budget as submitted
- Approval of discretionary disposition regarding budget amendments as submitted
- Approval of delegation of the position of an advisor

###### New advisor:

Hideto Kon                      Director-general, Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau

# Promotion of International Mutual Understanding

## 1. Lectures and symposiums

### (1) Convening a lecture on international understanding

A seminar was held to promote international understanding among HIECC members and Hokkaido residents.

○ FY 2016 seminar to promote international understanding

June 30 (Thu.), Sapporo Education and Culture Hall

Lecture:

Theme: Food and Halal Certification in Islam

Lecturer: Ahmad Maeno, Head of the Islamic Circle of Japan



Mr. Ahmad Maeno

### (2) Convening northern regions seminars

In collaboration with other organizations, lectures were organized to raise awareness of accumulated knowledge and experience concerning the industrial economy and lifestyles of northern countries, and to exchange information on regional development.

1st Seminar: January 27 (Fri.), Hotel Monterey Edelhof Sapporo

Lecture:

Theme: Learning from Sweden – Revitalization of Urban Areas in Small/Middle-sized Cities in Hokkaido

Lecturer: Masanao Meguro, Bidding Inspector, Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (former First Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in Sweden)

Short concert on the theme of “Traditional Swedish music and circumstances surrounding music”:

Songs and commentary: Miki Noma (accompaniment: Yuki Noma)

Co-host: Hokkaido Sweden Society



Short concert

2nd Seminar: February 24 (Fri.), Kaderu 2.7

Lecture:

Theme: Bridge of Friendship between Japan and Russia – Half-Century History of the Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo

Lecturer: Andrey Fabrichnikov, Consul General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo

Co-host: Hokkaido Japan-Russia Association

### (3) Convening international symposiums and seminars

As the North Pacific Region Advanced Research Project, symposiums and seminars on important themes related to politics, economy and diplomacy in Northeast Asia were organized, and overseas researchers and other concerned people were invited as guests.

1) North Pacific Arctic Research Community Seminar

July 5 (Tue.), Hokkaido University Centennial Hall

Theme: Sustainable Use of the Arctic

Organizer: North Pacific Arctic Research Community (NPARC) (Local secretariat: Cold Region Port and Harbor Engineering Research Center)

Co-hosts: Arctic Research Center of Hokkaido University (ARC), The Overseas Coastal Area Development Institute of Japan (OCDI)

2) 6th Hokkaido International Symposium on Northeast Asia

March 3 (Fri.), Keio Plaza Hotel Sapporo

Theme: Dawning of a New Age for Japan and Russia – Considering a Future Outlook

Panel discussion:

• Akihiro Iwashita, Professor, Hokkaido University Slavic-Eurasian Research Center (facilitator)

• Yukiko Kuroiwa, Professor, Iwate Prefectural University

• Daisuke Saito, Deputy Director General, Institute for Russian & NIS Economic Studies, Japan Association for Trade with Russia & NIS

• Hiroaki Honma, journalist, News Department (Nemuro), Hokkaido Branch, The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.

• Yoshihiro Takada, Senior Researcher and Director of the North Pacific Region Advanced Research Office, HIECC



Symposium

### 3) Russian business seminars

#### (i) Russian Business Seminar 2016

May 17 (Tue.), Hokkaido University Centennial Hall

Main theme: Prospects on the Russian Economy and New Economic Policy for the Russian Far East –  
Exploration of How Japan and Hokkaido Should Respond

Keynote speeches:

##### (1) Russian Economy in 2015 and its Prospects for 2016

Shinichiro Tabata, professor and Director of Hokkaido University Slavic-Eurasian Research Center

##### (2) New Russian Far East Policy of the administration of Vladimir Putin

Daisuke Saito, Deputy Director General, Institute for Russian & NIS Economic Studies, Japan Association for Trade with Russia & NIS

Round-table session:

Commentators:

The above-mentioned keynote speakers

Yury Altukhov, Consul, Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo

Kiichi Mochizuki, Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University

Co-hosts: The Association for the Inter-Regional Study Between Japan-Russia and Hokkaido-Russian Far East,  
Hokkaido University Slavic-Eurasian Research Center

#### (ii) Russian Business Seminar – Fast-evolving Japan-Russia Business

Development: The Possibilities and Future Prospects

October 31 (Mon.), New Otani Inn Sapporo

Lectures:

(1) Tsutomu Nakagawa, Director-General for Trade Policy, Ministry of Economy,  
Trade and Industry

(2) Tetsuya Umetsu, Director, Overseas Research Department, Japan External  
Trade Organization (JETRO)

(3) Yukio Tenma, General Director, Hokkaido Corporation

Reports:

Koji Hattori, Nissin Corporation; Katsumi Fujishima, International Affairs Division, Hokkaido Government;  
others

Organizer: Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Hokkaido

Co-hosts: METI Hokkaido, Hokkaido Government



Seminar at  
Hokkaido University

#### (iii) Seminar on the Economy of the Russian Far East and the Baikal Region

March 10 (Fri.), Hotel Polestar Sapporo

Lectures:

##### (1) Eastward Shift of Russia and Eastern Economy

*Olga Prokapalo*, Director, Economic Research Institute, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Dr. Pavel Minakir, Economic Research Institute, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences

##### (2) Economic Situation of Irkutsk Oblast and the Baikal Region

Dr. Natalia Sysoyeva, Irkutsk Research Center, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Organizer: Japan Association for Trade with Russia & NIS



## **2. Collection and provision of international information**

### **(1) Research study and collection of resource materials**

#### 1) Research study on economic exchanges with Mongolia

##### (i) Hokkaido-Mongolia Economic Exchange Promotion Research Committee Project

HIECC participated in the Mongolia-Hokkaido Investment Forum held in Ulaanbaatar (on September 20) by the Hokkaido-Mongolia Economic Exchange Promotion Research Committee (Secretariat: Honorary Consulate of Mongolia in Sapporo). It also attended seminars and business meetings held in Sapporo (on February 6 and 7, 2017) with the participation of Mongolian corporate members of the Committee.

##### (ii) Feasibility study on Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) projects under inter-city collaboration in Mongolia

Along with the Hokkaido Government, Sapporo City Government and private businesses in Hokkaido, HIECC participated in the FY2016 Feasibility Study on the Development of JCM Projects under City-to-City Collaboration for Realizing a Low-Carbon Society in Mongolia implemented by the Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan, (commissioned by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan). It organized workshops in Ulaanbaatar (October 27) and Sapporo (January 20) and engaged in other related activities.

##### (iii) Study on business environment in Mongolia

At the request of METI Hokkaido, HIECC conducted a basic study regarding the political and economic situation of Mongolia and the willingness of Hokkaido companies to enter Mongolian markets to promote economic exchanges with Mongolia.

#### 2) Border studies

HIECC took part in border tourism studies by Hokkaido University Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, engaging in a survey of tourist resources along the 50th parallel North in Sakhalin Oblast and studying measures to promote border tourism.

#### 3) Study on business environment in the Siberian region (Novosibirsk) of Russia

HIECC participated in a study conducted in Novosibirsk by METI Hokkaido, assessing the feasibility of new business ventures to introduce technologies and products designed for cold regions in the Siberian region.

### **(2) International information network system**

Using the Internet, HIECC collected, accumulated and widely transmitted information on international exchanges and other activities to Hokkaido residents. Facebook was also used to provide timely information on the schedules and results of HIECC and other projects.

### **(3) Publication of the quarterly magazine “Hoppoken” Vol. 176 (Summer) – Vol. 179 (Spring)**

To provide information related to international exchanges and the promotion of international understanding, HIECC published its quarterly magazine for its members and Hokkaido residents. A total of 1,500 copies of each issue were published.

### 3. Overseas training

#### (1) Overseas training project (youth exchange program with Heilongjiang Province)

HIECC dispatched six young people from various parts of Hokkaido to China to foster personnel capable of contributing to regional development with an international perspective by learning about regional circumstances overseas, going on tours of inspection to related organizations and having opinion exchanges with local students. The destinations included Heilongjiang Province, which marked the 30th anniversary of friendship with Hokkaido.

Dispatch period: November 16 (Wed.) – 23 (Wed.)

Destinations: China (Harbin, Shanghai, Beijing)

Participants: 6 young people in Hokkaido



Exchanges with students at Northeast Forestry University (Harbin)



Visit to the China-Japan Friendship Association (Beijing)

#### (2) Project for high school students to build bridges in the world

##### 1) Project for high school students to build bridges in Asia

HIECC dispatched high school students from Hokkaido to a developing country for training that would encourage them to consider global issues such as wealth disparities and environmental problems as their own problems. After returning to Japan, these students visited junior high and high schools in Hokkaido to share their experiences with other students. This project is intended to foster individuals who can actively collaborate with other people and society.

Dispatch period: July 31 (Sun.) – August 7 (Sun.)

Destination: Philippines

Participants: 10 high school students

Miscellaneous: 2 preliminary training sessions, 2 follow-up training sessions, 7 briefing sessions (for schools and Hokkaido residents)



Exchanges with children at a special needs school in Cebu City



Briefing session for Hokkaido residents in March

##### 2) Jeju Youth Forum 2016

HIECC dispatched seven high school students from Hokkaido to the 7th Jeju Youth Forum, which was held on Jeju Island, South Korea, giving them the opportunity to exchange opinions on global social problems with young people from other countries through panel discussions and cultural experiences. The forum drew a total of 148 people from 22 regions in eight countries. HIECC also provided a total of seven training sessions for the students before and after they were dispatched, as well as one briefing session for Hokkaido residents.

Dispatch period: November 3 (Thu.) – 7 (Mon.)



Panel discussion of participating high school students

## 4. Promotion of multiculturalism

### (1) Collaboration with Multicultural Network Promotion Council members

Based on investigations and discussions at the Hokkaido Multicultural Regional Development Promotion Council, HIECC worked with Multicultural Network Promotion Council members to further build networks by implementing various projects to realize multicultural coexistence in Hokkaido. Those projects are outlined below.

#### 1) Project to promote disaster management education and training for foreigners living in Hokkaido

In collaboration with the Muroran Institute of Technology, HIECC trained international students in Muroran in the fundamentals of earthquakes and other natural disasters, as well as techniques for obtaining the necessary information and the actions to take in times of disaster.

February 18 (Sat.), Muroran; participants: 24 international students



International students undergoing training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (Muroran)

#### 2) Multiculturalism enlightenment project (lecture)

The population of Hokkaido has been aging at a much faster rate than the average for Japan. Against this backdrop, HIECC held a lecture toward the realization of a multicultural society in which Hokkaido residents of all nationalities can contribute to regional development and revitalization as members of local communities.

December 9 (Fri.), Asahikawa (co-host: Asahikawa International Committee)

Theme: Promotion of Inbound Tourism and Multiculturalism – Creating an Environment that is also Friendly to Foreigners

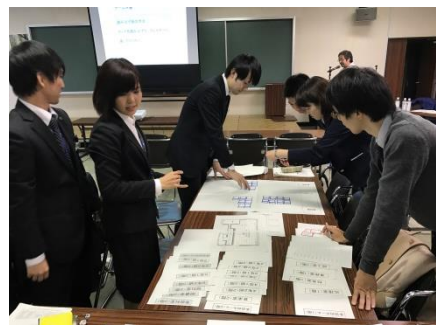
Lecturer: Taro Tamura, Representative Director, Multicultural Center Osaka



Lecture by Mr. Taro Tamura

#### 3) Multicultural coordinator seminar

HIECC held a seminar for people involved in the realization of a multicultural society in Hokkaido and future regional development. October 24, Asahikawa; co-host: Hokkaido International Foundation  
Lecturer: Makoto Ikeda, Secretary-General, Hokkaido International Foundation



Participants in a shelter-operating game (HUG)

#### 4) Information session on the recruitment of multilingual supporters in times of disaster

March 5 (Sun.), Kushiro; co-host: Kushiro International Friendship

Association

Participants: 24

### (2) Initiatives to promote multicultural communities

HIECC hosted various events with the aim of further promoting multicultural harmony in communities in various areas of Hokkaido.

#### 1) Evacuation drill in the event of a nuclear emergency for foreign tourists

On the occasion of the nuclear emergency response exercise hosted by the Hokkaido Government, HIECC also held a drill to evacuate foreign tourists promptly after a nuclear accident.

November 14 (Mon.), Yoichi

Participants (foreigners): 21

#### 2) Multicultural workshop

Eleven years after the announcement of the Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, HIECC, in conjunction with the Sapporo International Communication Plaza Foundation and other organizations, held a workshop to look back on their past activities and discuss future initiatives.



Foreigners evacuate according to the instructions of guides.

December 10 (Sat.), Sapporo

Participants: 26

3) World cooking classes

In collaboration with other organizations, HIECC held cooking classes for Hokkaido residents of all nationalities to explore the cuisine of two countries for the purpose of helping them deepen their mutual understanding by experiencing the traditions and food cultures of these countries through their cuisine.

October 27 (Thu.), Asahikawa; co-host: Ryabina Japan-Russia Cultural Exchange Association

February 19 (Sun.), Sapporo; co-host: Hokkaido Finland Society

4) Registration and dispatch of international exchange volunteers

HIECC recruited and registered volunteers who cooperate with international exchange programs and dispatched them to support regional activities and programs by exchange groups.

- Number of registered people: 42 (as of March 31)

- Number of occasions when volunteers were dispatched: 1

5) Registration of multilingual supporters in times of disaster in Hokkaido

Number of registered supporters: 43

6) Support Desk for Foreigners

7) Registration of everyday goods for support of international students

HIECC registered everyday goods donated by the public to be supplied to international students through universities.

- Number of registered items: 4 (as of March 31)

### **(3) Hokkaido Multicultural Award commendation program**

With the aim of creating a society in which Hokkaido residents of all nationalities can contribute to regional development and revitalization, HIECC established the Hokkaido Multicultural Award to recognize organizations engaged in outstanding activities in personnel training, living environment improvement, disaster prevention, education, regional development and other fields. In the first year, two organizations received the award.

Two organizations selected for Excellence awards:

NPO S-nico (Sapporo)

Ryugakusei Friendship (Muranoran)

Awards ceremony: January 18 (Wed.), Sapporo Prince Hotel



Diplomas are presented to the representatives of the two awardee organizations.

# Promotion of International Exchanges

## 1. Implementation of exchange programs with other countries

### (1) Visit to China

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the friendship agreement between Hokkaido and Heilongjiang Province, HIECC dispatched a delegation consisting of HIECC officials and young people from Hokkaido to attend commemorative events with members of delegations from the Hokkaido Government and Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly.

The ceremony to mark the 30th anniversary of the friendship agreement between Hokkaido and Heilongjiang Province, and other commemorative events  
November 17 (Thu.) – 18 (Fri.), Harbin

### (2) Hosting of a group visiting Hokkaido from overseas (South America exchanges)

HIECC hosted a visiting group of six people who are the descendants of emigrants from Hokkaido to Argentina to promote their understanding of Hokkaido, their ancestors' land, and to deepen friendship through interaction with Hokkaido residents and a tour of the region.

Host period: January 31 (Tue.) – February 7 (Tue.)

Places visited: Sapporo, Kitahiroshima and other places



The members tour The Hokkaido Shimbun Press printing plant in Sapporo

### (3) Japan-South Korea sports exchange program

To promote specific exchanges and cooperation between Hokkaido and South Korea, HIECC dispatched a delegation to South Gyeongsang Province in South Korea to promote “mini volley,” a unique sport that originated in Hokkaido. In FY 2016, it also implemented a Mini Volley Youth Exchange Program for university students in Hokkaido and South Gyeongsang Province to mark the 10th anniversary of the signing of a memorandum of intent on exchanges between the two regions.

Dispatch period: August 30 (Tue.) – September 2 (Fri.)

Number of delegation members: 21 (from HIECC, Hokkaido Mini Volley Association and other organizations)

Places visited: Geoje and Changwon, South Gyeongsang Province



Mini volley friendly match (Geoje)



Participants from Japan and South Korea after a friendly match (Changwon)

### (4) Hosting of a group of Korean university students who visited Japan

As part of Japan's Friendship Ties Programs (JENESYS 2016), HIECC collaborated with the Hokkaido Government and other organizations to host a group of Korean university students who visited Japan through a regional program organized by the Japan-Korea Cultural Foundation, providing opportunities for homestay, interactions with local students and a tour to local companies as well as hands-on experience of Japanese culture (including “Sorani Bushi” Hokkaido folk dance).

Host period (in Hokkaido): February 3 (Fri.) – 8 (Wed.)

Number of youth delegation members from South Korea: 78 (including 68 students)



Interactions between university students from Japan and South Korea



Hands-on experience of Soran Bushi folk dance

### (5) Dispatch of a group of young people from Hokkaido to China

At the invitation of the Chinese government (Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Sapporo), young people from Hokkaido visited China to deepen their understanding of the country through interactions with local high school and university students, a tour to historical and cultural facilities and hands-on experiences.

Dispatch period: August 6 (Sat.) – 14 (Sun.)

Destinations: Harbin, Xi'an, Shanghai and Beijing

Participants: 13 high school students and three university student leaders



In front of Saint Sophia Cathedral (Harbin)



Japanese students make a presentation about Hokkaido.

### (6) International exchanges during Culture Night 2016

HIECC participated in Culture Night, an event during which cultural facilities are opened to the public at night and companies and government bodies work together to give Hokkaido residents the opportunity to enjoy local culture. To introduce the activities of HIECC, it provided an opportunity for local people to interact with foreigners through "Let's experience games from around the world!" and other programs.

July 22 (Fri.), HIECC Special Conference Room and elsewhere

Number of visitors: 81



World Café (held with the theme, "Let's talk with international students!")

## 2. Promotion of activities to make international students feel welcome

### (1) Provision of support for international students

To help increase the number of international students at universities in Hokkaido, HIECC provided grant aid for international students, and registered the recipients as international supporters to facilitate their participation in regional exchange programs.

#### Outline of grant aid for study

Target: privately funded international students (such as graduate students)

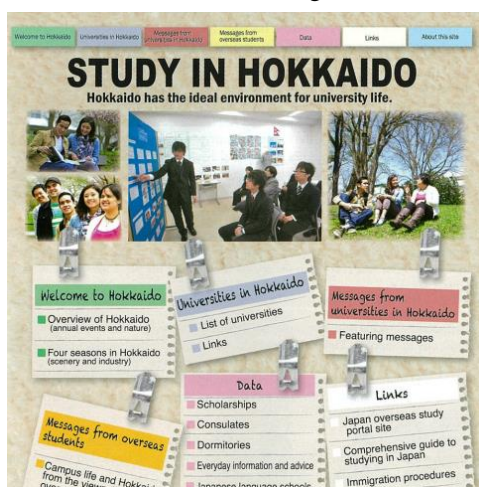
Number of grant-aided students: 50

Grant-in-aid amount: ¥15,000/month

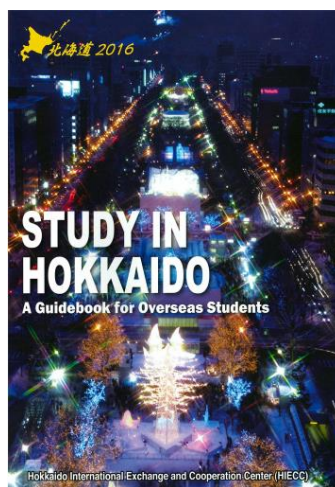
### (2) Promotion of universities in Hokkaido

To help increase the number of international students, HIECC promoted universities in Hokkaido to overseas students, universities and related organizations.

- 1) Operation of the promotion website (in English, Chinese and Korean)
- 2) Publication and distribution of guidebooks for studying in Hokkaido



Top page (<http://study-hokkaido.com>)



Guidebook for studying in Hokkaido

### 3) Promotion at the Study in Japan Fair

HIECC participated in the Study in Japan Fair held in two Vietnamese cities by the Japan Student Services Organization to promote universities in Hokkaido to students and educators, and to distribute brochures about Hokkaido and universities in Hokkaido.

October 15 (Sat.), Hanoi venue; number of visitors to the HIECC booth: approx. 150

October 16 (Sun.), Ho Chi Minh venue; number of visitors to the HIECC booth: approx. 120



Study in Japan Fair Hanoi venue



PR of Hokkaido universities to people visiting the HIECC booth

### 4) Publication of e-mail newsletters to international students who had returned home

For international students who had returned home from Hokkaido, HIECC published the e-mail newsletter *News for Ryugakusei Supporters*, which is issued three times a year, to further promote their understanding of Hokkaido through the provision of various kinds of up-to-date information on Hokkaido, including job opportunities.

### (3) Implementation of regional exchanges with international students

HIECC invited 18 international students from seven countries who study at universities in Hokkaido to Shimokawa Town in northern Hokkaido, where they interacted with local people through the human centipede

race and other events at the 13th Shimokawa Udon Festival. The students also learned about the town's environmental initiatives toward the creation of a low-carbon society.

Hokkaido Foreign Student Exchanges in Shimokawa (subsidized by the Nakajima Foundation)  
August 28 (Sun.) – 29 (Mon.)



With Mayor Kazuyuki Tani of Shimokawa



Students are briefed about charcoal made from Japanese larch

### 3. Support for emigrants

#### (1) Hosting of international students (South America exchanges)

HIECC hosted an international student from an association representing people who had emigrated from Hokkaido to Brazil and provided training for study and specialized skill development, fostering his ability to act as a bridge or link between Hokkaido and his country.

#### (2) Support for activities by associations representing people who had emigrated from Hokkaido (South America exchanges)

HIECC supported the operation of associations representing people who had emigrated from Hokkaido and their activities to provide information to emigrants

- Associação Hokkaido de Cultura e Assistência (Hokkaido Association of Culture and Assistance)
- Paraguay Federation of Associations of People from Hokkaido
- Argentina Association of People from Hokkaido
- Sakhalin Association of People from Hokkaido

### 4. Grants-in-aid for exchange programs

#### Grants-in-aid based on international exchange program assets

HIECC provided a total of 1.85 million yen for 10 programs (culture: 6, exchange: 2, education: 2, event: 2) by international exchange bodies using management gains from international exchange program assets to promote exchanges with various regions of the world and to contribute to the development of living conditions, culture and the industrial economy of Hokkaido.

#### FY 2016 Grants-in-aid from the international exchange fund

Target for grants-in-aid		Amount (¥1,000)	Place	Time	Objectives and descriptions
Program name	Organizer				
Seoul Friendship Fair Cultural Performance	(NPO) Kobushiza Folk Performing Arts Company	100	Seoul	May	As the representatives of Hokkaido, Kobushiza members participated in the Seoul Friendship Fair hosted by the Seoul Metropolitan Government, introducing traditional Japanese culture and contributing to the improvement of the performing skills of Japanese and South Korean artists and the development of friendly relations between the two regions.
Sibelius at the (Dining) Table – An opportunity to enjoy Jean Sibelius pieces	The Sibelius Society of Japan Hokkaido Branch	200	Sapporo	May	In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of world-famous Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, a soprano singer was invited from Finland to participate in master class lessons and a concert as



and Finnish food					well as an exchange party featuring Sibelius music and Finnish cuisine.
NPG Canada Cultural Exchange Project	Geimori Studio Music Exchange Committee	100	Toronto	Jun.	Since the winning group of the contest at the Sapporo City Jazz event was entitled to perform at the Toronto Jazz Festival, as in the previous year, the group's members interacted through music with high school and university students in Toronto through homestay and school visit programs.
Sapporo Art Park International Youth Jazz Camp	Sapporo Cultural Arts Foundation	200	Sapporo	Jul. Aug.	In celebration of the 30th anniversary of Sapporo Art Park's opening, about 230 elementary and junior high school students, including those from jazz schools in various areas of Hokkaido, Norway and five other overseas countries, gathered for music exchanges. They formed 11 to 13 junior jazz bands that performed in various locations.
Japan-Canada International Hockey Program	Japan-Canada Ice Hockey International Exchange Executive Committee	150	Kushiro	Jul.	A hockey team from Canada and high school hockey teams from Kushiro competed in friendly games and deepened exchanges through homestay experiences and get-togethers. The Canadian hockey team members also engaged in exchanges at a grass-roots level through their participation in the Kushiro Fog Festival and hands-on experiences in Japanese culture, including seated Zen meditation and a Shinto ritual.
Hokkaido-Russia Far East Exchange Program	Hokkaido-Russia Far East Exchange Program Executive Committee	500	Sapporo	Jul. – Sept.	(1) The 18th Ship of Experience and Friendship for Youth The Hokkaido side hosted 43 young people from Sakhalin and organized cultural exchange and outdoor activity programs for young people from both regions to engage in while sharing board and room. (2) The 11th Citizens' Exchange Conference Sister cities/municipalities, friendship organizations and other bodies in Hokkaido and Sakhalin Oblast gathered to exchange opinions on the theme of tourism exchanges between the two regions.
The 6th Finland One Day University 2016	Hokkaido Finland Society	200	Sapporo	Nov.	To mark the 40th anniversary of the Hokkaido Finland Society's foundation, a Finland One Day University event was held for Hokkaido residents to promote mutual understanding between Hokkaido and Finland through a keynote speech and seminar about the history, culture and day-to-day lives of Finnish people.
International Cooperation Festa 2016	Hokkaido NGO Network Council	100	Sapporo	Dec.	NGOs in Hokkaido collaborated to hold a panel exhibition about international cooperation and set up booths to introduce their activities. Stage performances and talk shows were also held to provide information about international cooperation to the public.

Singapore Study Tour	Takikawa International Exchange Association	100	Singapore	Oct.	A study tour to Singapore was organized to foster personnel capable of promoting multiculturalism, giving participants first-hand experience of the multiethnic makeup of that country and its status of economic development to understand different cultures from their own and broaden their international perspectives. The participants visited the International University of Singapore for exchanges with young people.
Children of the World Festival 2016	The Children of the World Committee	200	Hakodate	Feb.	In this event to build the next generation of leaders for internationalization, youth dance groups invited from Russia and Sri Lanka built relations with children from Hakodate through such activities as stage performance workshops led by the dance groups and chorus, Japanese drum and puppet show performances by the local children.
Total: 10 programs		1,850			

## 5. Exchanges with regional organizations

### (1) Convening regional meetings on international exchanges

To strengthen collaboration with municipalities and regional international exchange organizations, HIECC held regional meetings on international exchanges with concerned people in various parts of Hokkaido to exchange information and opinions about collaboration in future activities.

- 1) July 25 (Mon.), Rumoi
- 2) October 6 (Thu.), Kutchan
- 3) December 8 (Thu.), Iwamizawa
- 4) December 14 (Wed.), Sapporo

- To share basic information on multiculturalism, lectures on multiculturalism were also held in central Hokkaido.



Meeting in Rumoi

### (2) Promotion of executive committee projects

HIECC participated in the executive committees of international exchange programs jointly held by the relevant organizations and groups, and cooperated with the implementation of these programs.

- 1) Hokkaido-Russia Far East Exchange Program

To deepen friendship between Hokkaido and Sakhalin, HIECC participated in the executive committees of the Citizens' Exchange Conference and the Wings of Experience and Friendship for Youth to assist with the smooth implementation of the programs.

- Citizens' Exchange Conference (November 11 (Fri.), Sapporo)

Theme: Toward the Development of Tourism Exchanges between Hokkaido and Sakhalin

- Wings of Experience and Friendship for Youth (July 27 (Wed.) – August 3 (Wed.), Sapporo and other cities)

- 2) The 39th Sapporo International Night (co-hosted since FY 2012)

International students and Japanese university/high school students held group discussions on the theme, "Let's discuss the current affairs of the world!" and attended an exchange party.

December 11 (Sun.), Keio Plaza Hotel Sapporo/Kaderu 2.7; participants: 326 people from 35 countries

Part 1: Group discussions (themes shown below)

- A. Japan and the Japanese people as viewed from the world
- B. Educational inequality in Sapporo
- C. Toward a society free of bullying
- D. Family affairs in the world
- E. Let's think about work-life balance.



Discussion by students (Kaderu 2.7)

F. Trending cultures in the world

G. For the elimination of the misery of war

Part 2: Exchange party

Following the organizer's speech, students shared the results of their discussions, and at the end of the party, all participants joined in a chorus of pop songs and the popular "Pen-Pineapple-Apple-Pen" (PPAP) song, deepening their mutual understanding and friendship.

### (3) The operations of the Hokkaido Consular and Foreign Trade Corps, and implementation of its projects

HIECC serves as the executive office of the Hokkaido Consular and Foreign Trade Corps, which has been established to facilitate mutual collaboration and information-sharing among consulate-generals, consulates and trade offices in Hokkaido and to promote exchanges in economic, educational, cultural and other various fields between Hokkaido and overseas countries. The organization has also worked to build connections between Hokkaido residents and foreign consular offices.

- Corps members: 6 consulate-generals and similar offices, 20 honorary consulates, 4 supporting members (as of Mar. 31, 2017)

#### (Activity outline)

##### 1) General meeting

The general meeting was attended by 17 people, including Ronald Green, the Chairman of the Corps and Australian Consul in Sapporo, and other consuls/consul-generals as well as 11 honorary consuls, to discuss business plans among other items on the agenda.



General meeting at Sapporo Prince Hotel

##### 2) School visit project

Consul-generals and other staff of consulate-generals visited

junior high schools and high schools in Hokkaido, where they presented outlines of their countries' culture and the work of consulate-generals to broaden students' global insight and deepen an understanding of different cultures.

#### ◎ School visits

- i. Sapporo Odori High School: Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea in Sapporo (Aug. 29 (Fri.))
- ii. Sapporo Shirakabadaei Elementary School: Consulate-General of the United States of America in Sapporo (Sept. 30 (Fri.))
- iii. Motomuroran Junior High School (in Muroran): Australian Consulate in Sapporo (Oct. 7 (Fri.))
- iv. Sapporo Kiyota High School: All consulates/consulate-generals (Oct. 21 (Fri.) and 28 (Fri.))
- v. Sapporo Minamigaoka Junior High School: Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo, Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Sapporo, Australian Consulate in Sapporo (Nov. 30 (Wed.))

##### 3) International Week

To promote greater visibility or the presence of consulate-generals and similar offices that directly represent foreign countries in Hokkaido, promotional displays, performances and other events were held to introduce the economic situations and cultures of these countries. More than 10,800 people from Hokkaido participated in the events.

#### ◎ Promotional displays

Period: November 28 (Mon.) – 30 (Wed.)

Venue: Kita 3-jo Square, Sapporo Ekimae-dori Underground Walkway

Participants: consulate-generals and similar offices (6 countries), honorary consulates (13 countries)

#### ◎ Performances to introduce culture

Period: November 28 (Mon.) – 30 (Wed.)

Venue: Kita 3-jo Square, Sapporo Ekimae-dori Underground Walkway

Participants: consulate-generals and similar offices (9 countries)



Opening ceremony



Local residents visit exhibition booths of different countries.



Performance to introduce the country's culture

#### 4) New Year's party

A New Year's party was attended by consul-generals and honorary consuls of foreign consular offices as members of the Corps, the Hokkaido Governor, the Director-General of METI Hokkaido and other government officials, the Chairman of the Hokkaido Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and other representatives from the business community of Hokkaido, universities and the media as well as representatives from international exchange and cooperation bodies.

January 18 (Wed.), International Convention Center Pamir, Sapporo Prince Hotel

Organizer: Hokkaido Consular and Foreign Trade Corps

Participants: 78 people (from local governments, international exchange/cooperation bodies, economic groups, news organizations, others)



Seiji Ubukata, Deputy Chairman of the Corps, speaks on behalf of the organizer.



Yasuhiro Tsuji, Vice Governor of Hokkaido, speaks as a guest.

## Promotion of International Cooperation

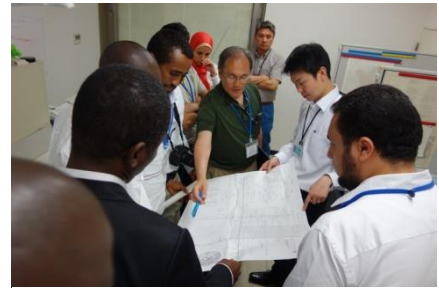
### 1. Participation in the training projects of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

#### (1) Implementation of training projects

HIECC was entrusted to coordinate six training courses by JICA  
Hokkaido International Center (Sapporo).

#### 1) Issue-specific training, “Comprehensive Engineering on Water Supply Systems (B)”

(Host period: June 6 (Mon.) – August 19 (Fri.))



Trainees learn how to draw piping diagrams at Sapporo City Waterworks Bureau.

#### 2) Country-specific training, Côte d’Ivoire, “Strengthening of Local Governance for Participatory Regional Development”

(Host period: July 4 (Mon.) – 20 (Wed.))



Trainees tour the Takikawa City Council Hall

#### 3) Issue-specific training, “Regional Development by Systematic and Comprehensive Utilization of Forest Resources through Forest Certification System and Product Branding”

(Host period: September 2 (Fri.) – October 28 (Fri.))



On-site training at Hokkaido University Uryu Experimental Forest

#### 4) Issue-specific training, “Tourism Destination Marketing under the Cooperation between the Public and Private Sectors”

(Host period: September 5 (Mon.) – October 7 (Fri.))



Researcher engaged in analysis of tourism marketing

5) Issue-specific training, “Strengthening of Local Education for SMASE-WECSA for Sub-Saharan Africa”  
(Host period: January 9 (Mon.) – February 3 (Fri.))



Trainees visit a junior high school in Tomakomai.

6) Country-specific training, Uganda, “Capacity Development in Planning and Implementation of Community Development in Acholi and West Nile Sub-regions”  
(Host period: February 6 (Mon.) – 24 (Fri.))



Trainees interact with local residents at a Local Center (Kiyota Ward in Sapporo).

(2) Implementation of the JICA Partnership Program  
By partnering with Sapporo City Waterworks Bureau and Sapporo Water Service Association, HIECC launched a three-year water transmission and distribution system improvement project, scheduled for completion in 2018, to ensure a stable water supply in Ulaanbaatar City, Mongolia, as part of the JICA Partnership Program (locally led technical cooperation for regional revitalization).



On-site training in installation of mechanical equipment in Ulaanbaatar

## 2. Hosting of trainees from overseas

### Hosting of overseas technical trainees (South America exchanges)

HIECC hosted a descendant of emigrants from Hokkaido of each of the associations of people who emigrated from Hokkaido to Paraguay and Argentina as technical trainees in advanced expertise and Japanese language, fostering their ability to serve as bridges between Hokkaido and South America.  
(Host period: June 2016 – March 2017)

## 3. Collection and provision of information on international cooperation

### Publication of the “Deai” information magazine on international cooperation

To deepen understanding of international cooperation and developing countries, HIECC published the Deai information magazine on international cooperation, introducing the programs and activities implemented by HIECC and other international exchange/cooperation organizations in Hokkaido. A total of 2,000 copies per issue were published three times during the year and were distributed to international exchange/cooperation organizations in Hokkaido and elsewhere, as well as municipalities, universities and other related bodies in Hokkaido.



## Major articles in individual issues

### Summer issue Vol. 78

◇Special feature: Foreign Residents in Hokkaido and HIECC Multicultural Programs ◇Interview with a Participant in the Project to Build Bridges in Asia: My Life after Participation in the Project for High School Students to Build Bridges in Asia (Shiori Matsukawa) ◇*Salama Tonight* international exchange and charity event for the Philippines (Sapporo) ◇Launch of JICA Partnership Program: Water Transmission and Distribution System Improvement Project for Water Supply in Ulaanbaatar City ◇FY 2015 Project to Host a Group of Young People from Paraguay ◇The Diary of an International Student in Sapporo: Finding Fun in Everything Old or New – *Karate*, My First Glimpse into Japan (Sangeetha Udani Ratnayake from the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, a student at the Hokkaido University Graduate School of Information Science and Technology) ◇Information on the School Visit Project by the Hokkaido Consular and Foreign Trade Corps

### Autumn issue Vol. 79

◇Special feature: Foreign Student Exchange in Shimokawa ◇Activities by NOGs and International Exchange Organizations in Hokkaido: Hokkaido NGO Network Council ◇Sekai Fureai Hiroba 2016@JICA Sapporo & Rifure Sapporo (Sapporo) ◇Exchanges with South Korea's South Gyeongsang Province over Mini Volley (South Gyeongsang Province in South Korea) ◇The 2nd International "Gomi Horoi" Beach Walk – Cleaning Up Ishikari Beach in Fall (Ishikari) ◇The Diary of an International Student in Sapporo: Development of Farm Machines for the Next Generation toward Higher Food Self-sufficiency (Roshanian Fard Ali from the Islamic Republic of Iran, a student at the Hokkaido University Research Faculty of Agriculture and Graduate School of Agriculture) ◇Request to HIECC members to sign up

### Winter issue Vol. 80

◇The Philippines as Viewed by High School Students – Project for High School Students to Build Bridges in Asia ◇The Journal of My International Cooperation Activities: The Country that Always Inspires Me to Grow (Naotsugu Yamada) ◇Multicultural Workshop "The Future of Hokkaido and its Multiculturalism (Sapporo) ◇The Diary of Sapporo Trainees/International Students who are Descendants of Former Emigrants from Hokkaido Abroad (Raphael Takeo Tagawa from the Federative Republic of Brazil); Hokkaido Government Overseas Trainees (Arturo Futoshi Kondo Yamashita from the Republic of Paraguay, Néstor Diego Numata from Argentine Republic) ◇2016 International Exchange in Shakotan (Shakotan) ◇Talk Event Connecting Tokachi in Hokkaido with Other Countries (Obihiro) ◇The 11th Medical English Seminar (Asahikawa)

## **FY 2016 Foreign Visitors to HIECC**

- (1) Country
  - (2) Date
  - (3) Title
  - (4) Name (honorifics omitted)
  - (5) Purpose of visit
- 
- (1) Brazil
  - (2) April 21, 2016
  - (3) International Student who is a Descendant of Former Emigrants from Hokkaido Abroad
  - (4) Raphael Takeo Tagawa
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) Paraguay
  - (2) June 3, 2016
  - (3) Hokkaido Government Overseas Trainee
  - (4) Arturo Futoshi Kondo Yamashita
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) Argentina
  - (2) June 3, 2016
  - (3) Hokkaido Government Overseas Trainee
  - (4) Néstor Diego Numata
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) Mongolia
  - (2) October 18, 2016
  - (3) Deputy Head, the Air Quality Monitoring Division, Ulaanbaatar City Government
  - (4) Galimbek Khaltai
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) Mongolia
  - (2) October 18, 2016
  - (3) Associate professor, National University of Mongolia
  - (4) Amarbayar Adiyabat
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) France
  - (2) December 5, 2016
  - (3) Chairman, Preparatory Committee for the Creation of a School under the Partnership between Hokuto Bunka Academy and Institut Paul Bocuse
  - (4) Michel Prosperi
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) Argentina
  - (2) February 1, 2017
  - (3) Head, Argentine Youth Exchange Delegation
  - (4) Hiroshi Yasuhara and five other members
  - (5) Courtesy visit
- 
- (1) Finland
  - (2) February 6, 2017
  - (3) President, International Association of Snow and Ice Sculpture.
  - (4) Juhani Lillberg
  - (5) Courtesy visit



## **International Sister/Friendship Partners with Municipalities in Hokkaido**

### **Municipality**

- (1) Affiliated cities
- (2) Affiliated year

### **Hokkaido**

- (1) Alberta / Canada
- (2) Sept. 1980
  
- (1) Heilongjiang / China
- (2) June 1986
  
- (1) Massachusetts / U.S.A.
- (2) Feb. 1990
  
- (1) Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) June 1998
  
- (1) Busan / Korea
- (2) Dec. 2005
  
- (1) Kyongsang-namdo / Korea
- (2) Jun. 2006
  
- (1) Seoul / Korea
- (2) Oct. 2010
  
- (1) Chiang Mai / Thailand
- (2) Feb, 2013

### **Sapporo**

- (1) Portland, Oregon / U.S.A.
- (2) Nov. 1959
  
- (1) Munich, Bayern / Germany
- (2) Aug. 1972
  
- (1) Shenyang, Liaoning / China
- (2) Nov. 1980
  
- (1) Novosibirsk, Novosibirsk State / Russia
- (2) June 1990
  
- (1) Daejeon / Korea
- (2) Oct. 2010

### **Asahikawa**

- (1) Bloomington, Normal, the Illinois / U.S.A.
- (2) Jan. 1962
  
- (1) Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Nov. 1967
  
- (1) Suwon, Gyeonggi-do / Korea
- (2) Oct. 1989
  
- (1) Harbin, Heilongjiang / China
- (2) Nov. 1995

### **Kushiro**

- (1) Burnaby, British Columbia / Canada

(2) Sept. 1965

(1) Kholmsk, Sakhalin State / Russia

(2) Aug. 1975

### **Mombetsu**

(1) Newport, Oregon / U.S.A.

(2) Apr. 1966

(1) Korsakov, Sakhalin State / Russia

(2) Jan. 1991

(1) Fairbanks, Alaska / U.S.A.

(2) Feb. 1991

### **Otaru**

(1) Nakhodka, Primorsky Region / Russia

(2) Sept. 1966

(1) Dunedin / New Zealand

(2) July 1980

(1) Gangseo-gu, Seoul / Korea

(2) Feb. 2009

### **Obihiro**

(1) Seward, Alaska / U.S.A.

(2) Mar. 1968

(1) Chaoyang, Liaoning / China

(2) Nov. 2000

(1) Madison, Wisconsin / U.S.A.

(2) Oct. 2006

### **Chitose**

(1) Anchorage, Alaska / U.S.A.

(2) Apr. 1969

(1) Kongsberg, Buskerud / Norway

(2) Aug. 1988

(1) Changchun, Jilin / China

(2) Oct. 2004

### **Kitami**

(1) Elizabeth, New Jersey / U.S.A.

(2) June 1969

(1) Poronaysk, Sakhalin State / Russia

(2) Aug. 1972

(1) Jinju, Gyeongsangnam-do / Korea

(2) May 1985

(1) Barrhead, Alberta / Canada

(2) July 1991

### **Nayoro**

(1) Kawartha Lakes (former Lindsay), Ontario / Canada

(2) Aug. 1969

- (1) Dolinsk, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Mar. 1991

### **Rumoi**

- (1) Ulan Ude, Buriyat S.S.R. / Russia
- (2) July 1972

### **Wakkanai**

- (1) Nevelsk, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Sept. 1972

- (1) Baguio / Philippines
- (2) Mar. 1973

- (1) Korsakov, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) July 1991

- (1) Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Sept. 2001

### **Nemuro**

- (1) Sitka, Alaska / U.S.A.
- (2) Dec. 1975

- (1) Severokurilisk, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Jan. 1994

### **Furano**

- (1) Schladming, Steiermark / Austria
- (2) Feb. 1977

### **Ebetsu**

- (1) Gresham, Oregon / U.S.A.
- (2) May 1977

### **Tomakomai**

- (1) Napier / New Zealand
- (2) Apr. 1980

- (1) Qinhuangdao, Hebei / China
- (2) Sept. 1998

### **Yubari**

- (1) Fushun, Liaoning / China
- (2) Apr. 1982

### **Hakodate**

- (1) Halifax, Nova Scotia / Canada
- (2) Nov. 1982

- (1) Vladivostok, Primorsky Region / Russia
- (2) July 1992

- (1) Lake Macquarie, New South Wales / Australia
- (2) July 1992

- (1) Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Sept. 1997

- (1) Tianjin / China
- (2) Oct. 2001

- (1) Goyang, Gyeonggi-do / Korea
- (2) Aug. 2011

#### **Ishikari**

- (1) Campbell River, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) Oct. 1983

- (1) Vanino, Khabarovsk Region / Russia
- (2) June 1993

- (1) Pengzhou, Sichuan / China
- (2) Oct. 2000

#### **Iwamizawa**

- (1) Pocatello, Idaho / U.S.A.
- (2) May 1985

- (1) Canby, Oregon / U.S.A.
- (2) July 1989

#### **Abashiri**

- (1) Port Alberni, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) Feb. 1986

#### **Muroran**

- (1) Knoxville, Tennessee / U.S.A.
- (2) Jan. 1991

- (1) Rizhao, Shandong / China
- (2) July 2002

#### **Ashibetsu**

- (1) Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island / Canada
- (2) July 1993

#### **Takikawa**

- (1) Springfield, Massachusetts / U.S.A.
- (2) Aug. 1993

#### **Fukagawa**

- (1) Abbotsford, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) Sept. 1998

#### **Akabira**

- (1) Samcheok, Gangwon-do / Korea
- (2) July 1997

- (1) Miluo, Hunan / China
- (2) Sept. 1999

#### **Shibetsu**

- (1) Goulburn Mulwaree, New South Wales / Australia
- (2) July 1999

#### **Noboribetsu**

- (1) Guangzhou, Guangdong / China
- (2) May 2002

- (1) Faaborg-Midtfyn / Denmark
- (2) June 2007

- (1) Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands / U.S.A.

(2) Nov. 2006

### **Date**

(1) Lake Cowichan, British Columbia / Canada

(2) Oct. 1989

(1) Zhangzhou, Fujian / China

(2) Apr. 2010

### **Eniwa**

(1) Timaru / New Zealand

(2) Feb. 2008

### **Kutchan**

(1) St. Moritz, Graubunden / Switzerland

(2) Mar. 1964

### **Shakotan**

(1) Seaside, Oregon / U.S.A.

(2) May 1966

### **Rankoshi**

(1) Saalfelden, Salzburg / Austria

(2) Oct. 1969

### **Engaru**

(1) Bastos, São Paulo / Brazil

(2) Oct. 1972

(1) Moirans-en-Montagne, Jura / France

(2) May 1998

### **Biei**

(1) Saalbach, Salzburg / Austria

(2) June 1973

### **Ikeda**

(1) Penticton, British Columbia / Canada

(2) May 1977

### **Betsukai**

(1) Wasserburg, Bayern / Germany

(2) May 1979

(3) 48°04' N

### **Kamisunagawa**

(1) Sparwood, British Columbia / Canada

(2) Sept. 1980

### **Saroma**

(1) Palmer, Alaska / U.S.A.

(2) Oct. 1980

### **Shiraoi**

(1) Quesnel, British Columbia / Canada

(2) July 1981

### **Akkeshi**

(1) Clarence, Tasmania / Australia

(2) Feb. 1982

### **Teshio**

- (1) Homer, Alaska / U.S.A.
- (2) Apr. 1984

- (1) Tomary, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) July 1992

#### **Kamikawa**

- (1) Rocky Mountain House, Alberta / Canada
- (2) June 1984

#### **Shikaoi**

- (1) Stony Plain, Alberta / Canada
- (2) Aug. 1985

#### **Kamifurano**

- (1) Camrose, Alberta / Canada
- (2) Sept. 1985

#### **Rikubetsu**

- (1) Lacombe, Alberta / Canada
- (2) July 1986

#### **Tobetsu**

- (1) Leksand, Dalarna / Sweden
- (2) Oct. 1987

#### **Shinhidaka**

- (1) Lexington, Kentucky / U.S.A.
- (2) July 1988

#### **Yoichi**

- (1) East Dunbartonshire, Scotland / United Kingdom
- (2) Nov. 1997

#### **Enbetsu**

- (1) Castlegar, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) June 1989

#### **Higashikawa**

- (1) Canmore, Alberta / Canada
- (2) July 1989

- (1) Rujiena, Valmiera / Latvia
- (2) July 2008

#### **Memuro**

- (1) Tracy, California / U.S.A.
- (2) Aug. 1989

#### **Okoppe**

- (1) Stettler, Alberta / Canada
- (2) June 1990

#### **Ashoro**

- (1) Wetaskiwin, Alberta / Canada
- (2) Sept. 1990

#### **Sarufutsu**

- (1) Ozersky, Sakhalin State / Russia
- (2) Dec. 1990

#### **Setana**

- (1) Hanford, California / U.S.A.
- (2) Aug. 1991

### **Shimukappu**

- (1) Aspen, Colorado / U.S.A.
- (2) Aug. 1991

### **Honbetsu**

- (1) Mitchell, Victoria / Australia
- (2) Sept. 1991

### **Sobetsu**

- (1) Kemijarvi, Lapland / Finland
- (2) May 1993

### **Bifuka**

- (1) Ashcroft, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) July 1994

### **Numata**

- (1) Port Hardy, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) Sept. 1994

### **Naie**

- (1) Hausjarvi / Finland
- (2) Apr. 1995

### **Takasu**

- (1) Gold Coast, Queensland / Australia
- (2) Nov. 1997

### **Toyokoro**

- (1) Summerland, British Columbia / Canada
- (2) June 1996

### **Hiroo**

- (1) Frogn, Akershus / Norway
- (2) Oct. 1996

### **Esashi**

- (1) Solleftea, Vasternorrland / Sweden
- (2) Nov. 1996

### **Kiyosato**

- (1) Motueka, Tasman / New Zealand
- (2) Sept. 1997

### **Bihoro**

- (1) Cambridge, Waipa / New Zealand
- (2) Oct. 1997

### **Nanae**

- (1) Concord, Massachusetts / U.S.A.
- (2) Nov. 1997

### **Yubetsu**

- (1) Whitecourt, Alberta / Canada
- (2) July 1998

- (1) Selwyn / New Zealand
- (2) July 2000

### **Shimokawa**

- (1) Kenora, Ontario / Canada
- (2) Feb. 2001

### **Teshikaga**

- (1) Nanqiu, Henan / China
- (2) Sept. 2005

- (1) Sishui, Shandong / China
- (2) Jan. 2005

- (1) Bincheng, Binzhou, Shandong / China
- (2) Jan. 2005

### **Kenbuchi**

- (1) Palcamayo, Junin / Peru
- (2) July 2011

- (1) Tarma / Peru
- (2) September 2015

### **Taiki**

- (1) Dashu, Kaohsiung / Taiwan
- (2) September 2015

### **Tsubetsu**

- (1) Ershui Township, Chanhua /Taiwan
- (2) Oct. 2012

### **Consulates**

- (1) Name
- (2) Address
- (3) Tel
- (4) Establishment

- (1) Consulate-General of the United States of America in Sapporo
- (2) Kita 1-jo Nishi 28-chome, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0821 Japan  
<http://sapporo.usconsulate.gov/>
- (3) +81-11-641-1115, +81-11-641-1116, +81-11-641-1117
- (4) June 1952

- (1) Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea in Sapporo
- (2) Kita 2-jo Nishi 12-chome 1-4, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0002 Japan  
<http://jpn-sapporo.mofat.go.kr/kor>
- (3) +81-11-218-0288
- (4) June 1966

- (1) Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo
- (2) Minami 14-jo Nishi 12-chome 2-5, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0914 Japan  
[http://www1.odn.ne.jp/ruscons\\_sapporo/](http://www1.odn.ne.jp/ruscons_sapporo/)
- (3) +81-11-561-3171, +81-11-561-3172
- (4) Oct. 1967

- (1) Office of the Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Hakodate
- (2) Motomachi 14-1, Hakodate 040-0054 Japan
- (3) +81-138-24-8201
- (4) Sept. 2003

- (1) Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Sapporo
- (2) Minami 13-jo Nishi 23-chome 5-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0913 Japan  
<http://www.chn-consulate-sapporo.or.jp>



(3) +81-11-563-5563

(4) Sept. 1980

(1) Australian Consulate in Sapporo

(2) Sapporo Center Bldg. 17F, Kita 5-jo Nishi 6-chome 2, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0005 Japan

<http://business.australia.or.jp/sapporo>

(3) +81-11-242-4381

(4) Dec. 1992

(1) Government of Canada Trade Commissioner Service

(2) Nikko Bldg. 5F, Kita 4-jo Nishi 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0004 Japan

<http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/>

(3) +81-11-281-6565

(4) Dec. 2005

## Honorary Consulates

(1) Name

(2) Address

(3) Representative

(4) Establishment

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia in Sapporo

(2) c/o Hokkaido Gas Co., Ltd., Odori-nishi 7-chome 3-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0042 Japan

Tel: +81-11-207-2100

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. SASAKI Masatsugu

(4) Dec. 1969

(1) Honorary Consulate of Finland in Sapporo

(2) c/o Arcs Co., Ltd., Minami 13-jo Nishi 11-chome 2-32, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0913 Japan

Tel: +81-11-530-6012

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. YOKOYAMA Kiyoshi

(4) Aug. 1973

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Belgium in Sapporo

(2) c/o Royce' Confect Co., Ltd., Ainosato 4-jo 9-chome 1-1, Kita-ku, Sapporo 002-8074 Japan

Tel: +81-11-778-3642

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. YAMAZAKI Yasuhiro

(4) Mar. 1980

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany in Sapporo

(2) c/o Hokkaido Headquarters of Sapporo Breweries Limited, Frontier Kan, Sapporo Factory, Kita 1-jo Higashi 4-chome 8-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8606 Japan

Tel: +81-11-251-4174

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. UBUKATA Seiji

(4) May 1980

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Chile in Sapporo

(2) Kamori Bldg. 3, Kita 4-jo Nishi 4-chome 1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0004 Japan

Tel: +81-11-232-0639

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KAMORI Kimihito

(4) June 1994

(1) Honorary Consulate of Canada in Sapporo

(2) c/o Canada Palace, Poseidon Maruyama 2F, Odori-nishi 26-chome 1-3, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0820 Japan

Tel: +81-11-643-2520

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. IHARA Keiji

(4) Nov. 1996

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Spain in Sapporo

(2) c/o North Pacific Bank, Ltd., Odori-nishi 3-chome 7, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0003 Japan

Tel: +81-11-219-7721

- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. YOKOUCHI Ryuzo
- (4) Jan. 1999

- (1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Lithuania in Sapporo
- (2) Odori Fujii Bldg. 2F, Odori-nishi 11-chome 4, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0042 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-221-3939
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. FUJII Hidekatsu
- (4) July 2004

- (1) Honorary Consulate of the United Mexican States in Sapporo
- (2) Hiraoka 9-jo 1-chome 1-6, Kiyota-ku, Sapporo 004-0879 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-883-8400
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. HOSHINO Kyosuke
- (4) Sept. 2006

- (1) Honorary Consulate of New Zealand in Sapporo
- (2) Kita 38-jo Nishi 2-chome 1-26, Kita-ku, Sapporo 001-0038 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-802-9272
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. AOKI Masanori
- (4) Oct. 2006

- (1) Honorary Consulate of France in Sapporo
- (2) SR Bldg. 3F, Minami 1-jo Higashi 2-chome 8-2, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0051 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-222-3572
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. FURUNO Shigeyuki
- (4) Nov. 2007

- (1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Latvia in Asahikawa
- (2) 7-jodori 13-chome 60-19, Asahikawa 070-0037 Japan
- Tel: +81-166-25-5880
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. INOSHITA Yoshikazu
- (4) Nov. 2007

- (1) Honorary Consulate of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Kushiro
- (2) Omachi Bldg. 4F, Omachi 1-1-10, Kushiro 085-0847 Japan
- Tel: +81-154-44-1040
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NAKAJIMA Taro
- (4) Nov. 2010

- (1) Honorary Consulate of the Federated States of Micronesia in Kushiro
- (2) Situs Bldg. 2F, Tottori-minami 5-chome 12-5, Kushiro 084-0905 Japan
- Tel: +81-154-61-5151
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KURIBAYASHI Nobutsugi
- (4) Dec. 2010

- (1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Guatemala in Sapporo
- (2) c/o Nagoya Tax Accounting Office, Nagoya Bldg., Kita 19-jo Nishi 3-chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo 001-0019 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-716-7412
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NAGOYA Takao
- (4) Apr. 2011

- (1) Honorary Consulate of Ireland in Sapporo
- (2) c/o Dimplex Japan, Kita 46-jo Higashi 17-chome 2-23, Higashi-ku, Sapporo 007-0846 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-783-8011
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KASAMA Seiji
- (4) Nov. 2012

- (1) Royal Danish Honorary Consulate in Sapporo
- (2) c/o Hokkaido Bank, Ltd., Odori Nishi 4-chome 1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8676 Japan
- Tel: +81-11-233-1256

- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. SEKIHACHI Yoshihiro
- (4) Feb. 2013
  
- (1) Honorary Consulate of Mongolia in Sapporo
- (2) Daiichi Bldg., 8F, Kita 4-jo Nishi 16-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0001 Japan  
Tel: +81-11-611-2626
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. TAKEBE Tsutomu
- (4) June 2014
  
- (1) Honorary Consulate of Papua New Guinea in Muroran
- (2) c/o Kuribayashi & Co., Ltd., Irie 1-19, Muroran 051-0023 Japan  
Tel: +81-143-24-7011
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KURIBAYASHI Kazunori
- (4) September 2015
  
- (1) Royal Thai Honorary Consulate in Sapporo
- (2) Kita 1-jo Nishi 2-chome 2-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0001 Japan  
Tel: +81-11-251-3212
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. OZAWA Masaaki
- (4) February 2017

## **Embassies**

- (1) Name
- (2) Address
- (3) Tel.
  
- (1) Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Japan
- (2) Moto-Azabu 2-14-14, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0046 Japan  
<http://www.embargentina.or.jp/index-jp.html>
- (3) +81-3-5420-7101
  
- (1) Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil in Japan
- (2) Kita-Aoyama 2-11-12, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8633 Japan  
<http://www.brasemb.or.jp/>
- (3) +81-3-3404-5211
  
- (1) Embassy of Canada in Japan
- (2) Akasaka 7-3-38, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8503 Japan  
<http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/japan-japon/>
- (3) +81-3-5412-6200
  
- (1) Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Japan
- (2) Moto-Azabu 3-4-33, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0046 Japan  
<http://www.china-embassy.or.jp/jpn/>
- (3) +81-3-3403-3388
  
- (1) Royal Danish Embassy in Japan
- (2) Sarugaku-cho 29-6, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0033 Japan  
<http://japan.um.dk/ja.aspx>
- (3) +81-3-3496-3001
  
- (1) Embassy of Finland in Japan
- (2) Minami-Azabu 3-5-39, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8561 Japan  
<http://www.finland.or.jp>
- (3) +81-3-5447-6000
  
- (1) Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Japan
- (2) Minami-Azabu 4-5-10, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047 Japan  
<http://www.tokyo.diplo.de/ja/Startseite.html>
- (3) +81-3-5791-7700

(1) Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Japan  
(2) Yotsuya 4-4-10, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0004 Japan  
<http://jpn-tokyo.mofat.go.kr/jpn/index.jsp>  
(3) +81-3-3452-7611

(1) Embassy of Mongolia in Japan  
(2) Kamiyama-cho 21-4, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0047 Japan  
[http://www.mn.emb-japan.go.jp/index\\_j.htm](http://www.mn.emb-japan.go.jp/index_j.htm)  
(3) +81-3-3469-2088

(1) Royal Norwegian Embassy in Japan  
(2) Minami-Azabu 5-12-2, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047 Japan  
<http://www.norway.or.jp/>  
(3) +81-3-6408-8100

(1) Embassy of the Republic of Paraguay in Japan  
(2) Ichiban-cho Dai-2 TG Bldg. 7F, Ichiban-cho 2-2, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0082 Japan  
<http://www.embapar.jp/>  
(3) +81-3-3265-5271

(1) Embassy of the Russian Federation in Japan  
(2) Azabudai 2-1-1, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0041 Japan  
<http://www.russia-emb.jp/>  
(3) +81-3-3583-4224

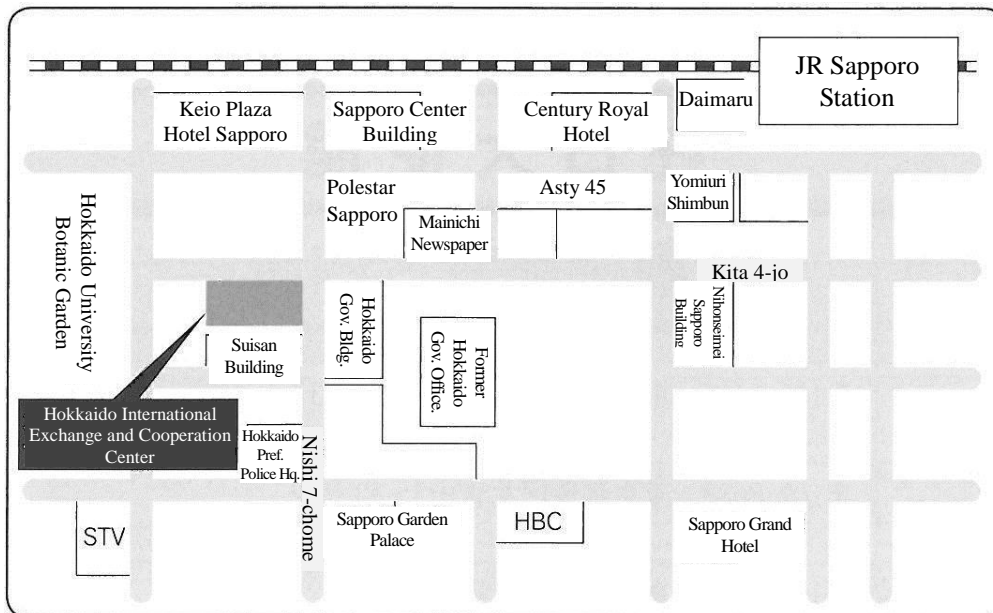
(1) Embassy of Sweden in Japan  
(2) Roppongi 1-10-3-100, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 Japan  
<http://www.swedenabroad.com/tokyoambjp>  
(3) +81-3-5562-5050

(1) Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy in Japan  
(2) Ichiban-cho 1, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8381 Japan  
<http://ukinjapan.fco.gov.uk/ja/>  
(3) +81-3-5211-1100

(1) Embassy of the United States of America in Japan  
(2) Akasaka 1-10-5, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8420 Japan  
<http://japanese.japan.usembassy.gov/>  
(3) +81-3-3224-5000

(1) Delegation of the European Union  
(2) Europe House, Sanban-cho 9-15, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0075 Japan  
<http://www.euinjapan.jp/>  
(3) +81-3-3239-0441  
As of March 31, 2014

(As of April 10, 2017)



# 2017 Annual Report

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