



## **TOKYO DECLARATION**

### **PREAMBLE**

Regional heritage in the Asia Pacific region both affirms the basis for the lifestyles of the people of the region with their diverse cultures and at the same time nourishes their identity; museums secure the foundation for the transmission of these rich cultures. In this region, where rapid changes are affecting the diversity of local cultures and the natural environment, museums play a key role in passing on the regional heritage and diverse cultures to the people of the world. For these reasons, we hereby declare the following:

1. ICOM-ASPAC will support the strengthening of international collaboration and communication amongst museums in the Asia Pacific region through relevant organizations connected with museums communities and the governmental authorities in each country.
2. ICOM-ASPAC will work in concert with the museum associations and museum-related academic societies in each country and cooperate with the policies designed to enhance museums, as well as the cultural and scientific policies, promoted by the governmental authorities in each country.
3. Museums in each country will advance awareness that the cultural, scientific and social information resources particular to its history and traditions are shared assets of the world; ICOM-ASPAC will actively work to improve the digitization of museum information and to enhance digital networks and museum resources. Some current examples of digital portals that advance these goals are: Encyclopedia of Life, Global Biodiversity Information Facility, and Virtual Collection of Masterpieces of Asia-Europe Museum Network.
4. ICOM-ASPAC will promote the ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums as an indispensable tool for the training of museum's personnel and for the advancement of the museum sector in each country, and will cooperate in strengthening human resource development programs and systems in the region.
5. ICOM-ASPAC will continue to support forums for debate in order to stimulate discussions regarding the core values of museums in this region.

We trust that the outcome of ICOM-ASPAC Conference in Tokyo 2009 will contribute to the success of ICOM 2010 Shanghai General Conference in China.

9th December 2009

The participants in ICOM-ASPAC Conference in Tokyo 2009