

## **The 7th Finnish- Japanese Cultural Consultations, Helsinki, October 30, 2000**

The Finnish-Japanese Cultural Consultations under the Cultural Agreement between Finland and Japan signed on December 27, 1978, held its 7th meeting in Helsinki on October 30, 2000. The Agenda of the Consultations is in Annex I

The Finnish Delegation was headed by Ms Ulla-Maria Helaniemi Director for Cultural Affairs Department for Press and Culture, Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The List of Participants of the Finnish Delegation is in Annex II.

The Japanese Delegation was headed by Mr. Azusa Hayashi, Director General, Cultural Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The List of Participants of the Japanese Delegation is in Annex III

The two Parties expressed their appreciation for the initiatives carried out both in Finland and in Japan since the last Meeting.

The two Parties discussed ways and means of increasing mutual exchanges and cooperation in the fields of education, science, youth, sports, art and culture.

Both Parties exchanged views on the Programme of activities for the years 2001 through 2003. The Parties will exchange summaries of the national Programmes for the period through diplomatic channels. The Finnish programme is attached as annex IV.

The two parties confirmed that the next Japanese- Finnish Cultural Consultations would be held in Tokyo at a time convenient to both Parties in 2003.

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Agenda

1. Exchange of Opening Remarks
2. Introduction of the members of the Delegations
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Policies of International Cultural and Educational Cooperation in Japan and Finland
5. Evaluation and Overview of Cultural Cooperation and Exchanges
  - -General introduction
  - -Permanent Structures
  - -Events
6. Cooperation and Exchanges in the Fields of Education, Higher Education and Research
7. Cooperation in the fields of Language Studies and of Literature and Translations
8. Exchanges of persons including Youth Exchange
9. Sports Cooperation and Exchanges
10. Exchange of views on Main Interests for Future Cooperation between Japan and Finland
11. Any Other Business
12. Time and Venue of the Next Meeting

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**Helsinki, October 30, 2000**

*The Finnish Delegation*

**Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

**Ms Ulla-Maria HELANIEMI** (Head of the delegation)

*Director for Cultural Affairs*

*Department for Press and Culture*

**Ms Johanna LAMMI**

*Second Secretary (Culture)*

*Department for Press and Culture*

*Culture Unit*

**Ministry of Education and Culture**

**Mr. Fredrik FORSBERG**

*Senior Government Secretary*

*International Relations*

**Ms Pirkko RAINESALO**

*Counsellor (Cultural Affairs)*

*Department for Cultural, Sport and Youth Policy*

*Arts and Cultural Heritage Division*

**Ms Heidi KUUSI**

*Chief Administrator*

*Department for Education and Science Policy*

*Science Policy Division*

**The Finnish Institute in Japan**

**Mr. Jukka VIITANEN**

*Director*

**Center of International Mobility**

**Ms Ulla-Maija ANTTILA**

*Secretary (International Mobility)*

**Assistant**

**Ms Eeva-Liisa MIELONEN**

*Secretary for International Relations*

*Ministry of Education and Culture*

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***The Japanese Delegation***

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

**Mr. Azusa HAYASHI** (Head of the delegation)

*Director-General*

*Cultural Affairs Department*

**Ms Ritsuko SHIMIZU**

*Assistant Director*

*First Cultural Affairs Division*

*Cultural Affairs Department*

**Ministry of Education**

**Mr. Yuzuru IMAZATO**

*Planning Director*

*Science and International Affairs Bureau*

**Japan Foundation**

**Mr. Masachika YAMAZAKI**

*Managing Director*

*Planning Department*

**Embassy of Japan**

**Mr. Shisei KAKU**

*Chargé d'Affaires a.i.*

**Mr. Ko KODAIRA**

*Counsellor*

**Ms Ayako HASHIDA**

*Attaché*

**Ms Akiko KANSUI**

*Special Assistant*

## **Finnish- Japanese Cooperation in the fields of Education, Science, Sports and Culture**

### **Finnish Programme of activities for the years 2001 through 2003**

#### **1. Cultural Cooperation and Exchanges**

The Ministry of Education will promote exchanges in the fields of music, art, design and architecture, literature and cinema. The Ministry will study the possibilities to support Finnish exhibitions to be shown in Japan during the program period, and also will encourage reciprocal visits of experts as well as joint seminars and workshops to be arranged in either country. This is to encourage networking of experts in both countries.

The Ministry supports the activities of the established organizations, for example Finnish-Japanese friendship societies like Japani Kilta, the Finnish-Japanese Society, cultural societies like Japan Finland Design Association, Origami-Finland as well as The Finnish Institute in Japan and other similar units that aim at facilitating understanding of both countries culture and way of life.

The program period will be used as a good opportunity to upgrade Finnish-Japanese relations in the field of Artist-in-Residence cooperation to facilitate building up individual commitment and permanent structures between Finland and Japan.

#### **2. Cooperation in the Field of Research and Education**

The Ministry of Education will promote exchanges in the field of research and education and, in particular, encourage direct agreements and contacts between universities and other institutions of higher education.

Japanese studies are now established as academic degree programs at the University of Helsinki, University of Oulu, University of Tampere, and University of Vaasa. Also many other universities have included Asian studies to their programs, which reflects the increasing interest to Asian cultures and research. The Ministry will continue to support these individual efforts and strengthen the horizontal cooperation through active participation to the development of National Network University in South-East and East-Asian studies. At the same time the support is extended to the Asia Pacific Studies Program at the University of Helsinki and Asia Institute of the Helsinki School of Economics and Business Administration and the Helsinki Swedish School of Economics and Business Administration.

The Academy of Finland will continue the cooperation with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Japanese Science and Technology Agency (STA) in the field of exchange of researchers.

The Centre for International Mobility CIMO is responsible for promoting international mobility and the exchange of students, trainees, researchers and experts. CIMO coordinates bilateral scholarship programmes based on cultural agreements.

CIMO will annually inform the Japanese authorities of the quota, financial terms and other provisions of these scholarships through diplomatic channels.

The main focus is in efforts to increase the researcher mobility between the two countries, which is addressed in extending the short-term researchers exchange programs and reviewing the possibilities for providing larger quotas for reciprocal exchange. At the same time, the information sharing and services will be introduced to all relevant parties through active communication.

Finnish side will study the possibilities to expand research efforts which focus on Finland in Japan through active cooperation with both Finnish and Japanese universities. The Ministry will promote the idea of establishing the faculty of Finnish studies in some Japanese university.

### **3. Language Studies, Literature and Translation**

Finnish language studies have developed favourably in Japanese universities. The Council for Instruction of Finnish for Foreigners (UKAN) supports Finnish studies in foreign universities and annually offers summer courses in Finnish language and culture for Japanese students.

At the same time, the Finnish universities have extended their students' possibilities to study Japanese in Finland to the extent that in almost every university there are courses in Japanese language. The Ministry will support efforts to extend these language programs for further studies.

The Ministry of Education will also support the Japanese-Finnish dictionary project to facilitate language and culture studies in both countries. The three-year-project will result in an extensive 32.000 word dictionary for general purposes and raise the opportunities for extended studies in our national languages and mutual understanding of each others cultures.

The Finnish Literature Information Centre will give financial support to foreign publishers for the translation of Finnish literature, as well as award grants for translators' visits to Finland.