

**The Second GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium  
The role of Earth observations in tackling climate change**

**General Information**

**Date and Venue**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> GEOSS AP Symposium will be held from 14 (Monday) to 16 (Wednesday) April 2008 at the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, Tokyo, 2-41, Aomi, Koto-ku, Tokyo, 135-0064 Japan. (Phone: +81-3-3570-9151(Main); Fax: +81-3-3570-9150)

**Registration**

Participants may register through the 2<sup>nd</sup> GEOSS AP Symposium Website **until 7 April 2008**:  
<http://www.prime-intl.co.jp/geoss/registration.html>

**Accommodation**

The following hotels are convenient for participants. Please contact the hotels directly for reservations.

**Tokyo Bay ARIAKE Washington Hotel**

3-1-28 Ariake, Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan 135-0063

Phone: +81 3 5564-0111

Fax: +81 3 5564-0525

[http://www.wh-rsv.com/english/tokyo\\_bay\\_ariake/](http://www.wh-rsv.com/english/tokyo_bay_ariake/)

**Le Méridien Grand Pacific Tokyo**

2-6-1 Daiba, Minato-Ku, Tokyo, Japan 135-8701

Phone: +81 3 5500-6711

Fax: +81 3 5500-4507

<http://www.meridien-grandpacific.com/>

**Hotel Villa Fontaine SHIODOME**

1-9-2 Shinbashi Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan 105-0021

Phone: 03-3569-2220

Fax: 03-3569-2111

<http://www.hvf.jp/eng/shiodome.php>

### **Transportation**

For information on ground transportation from Narita International Airport to the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo (the Venue), please see Appendix A.

### **VISA Applications**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> GEOSS AP Symposium Secretariat will support your application for a visa to enter Japan, for example by issuing an invitation letter if necessary. Please refer to Appendix B for further information regarding the process for visa applications.

### **Other**

\*Electric plug: flat two-pronged plug, type A (please bring your own plug adapters for your equipment)

\*Electric Voltage: 100V AC.

### **Symposium Website**

For up-to-date information on the GEOSS AP Symposium, please refer to our website at <http://www.prime-intl.co.jp/geoss/>

## APPENDIX B

### Ground Transportation from Narita International Airport to the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo (the Venue)

\*The National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo Website:  
[http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp/index\\_e.html](http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp/index_e.html)

#### 1 TRANSPORTATION

The place is easily accessible from the central area of Tokyo by a fully-automated transportation system Yurikamome. It takes about 25 min from the Tokyo station to the Funeno-kagakukan station (nearest station to the conference venue) via Shimbashi station.

#### 2 FROM NARITA AIRPORT

There are 3 ways to go to the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo (the Venue) from Narita Airport.

##### 2.1 By Airport Limousine bus:

Please take the bus to “Hotel Le Meridien Grand Pacific” and get off at the Hotel Le Meridien Grand Pacific. It takes approximately 90 minutes and costs JPY 2,700.

At Narita International Airport, Airport Limousine Bus counters are located in the arrival lobbies (in front of the exit) of both Terminal 1 and 2. Busses from Narita Airport leave from the arrival lobby on the 1st floor. Tickets can be purchased at the counters.

The buses for the venue depart Narita International Airport at 8:45, 10:55, 13:50, 15:50, 16:50, 17:50 and 18:50. If you need to travel outside the operating hours, please take trains.

\*Airport Limousine Bus Website: <http://www.limousinebus.co.jp/e/index.html>

At the Hotel Le Meridien bus terminal, take a walk to the Daiba train Station which is located next to the Hotel Le Meridien and take the YURIKAMOME line to the Funeno-kagakukan station. It takes approximately 3 minutes and cost JPY 180.

The National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo is just 3 minutes walk from the Funeno-kagakukan station. (Please see the map for direction)

##### 2.2 By Train: Please take Narita Express operated by East Japan Railway Company (JR) to JR Tokyo Station. It takes 63 minutes and costs JPY 2,940:

At the Narita Airport (Terminal-1 and Terminal-2), JR ticketing counter is located at B1 floor. You could buy ticket at either a ticketing counter or vending machines. The trains operate daily between

7:40am and 9:40pm, and run every 60 minutes or so. If you need to travel outside the operating hours, please consult the secretariat for your travel plan.

\*Narita Express Website (JR):<http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/nex/index.html>

From JR Tokyo station:

Please take Yamanote line at JR Tokyo station to JR Shinbashi station. It takes 3 minutes and costs JPY 130.

At Shinbashi station, please take the Yurikamome line and get off at Funeno-kagakukan station. The National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo is just 3 minutes walk from the Funeno-kagakukan station. (Please see the map for direction).

### **2.3 By Taxi:**

The cost of the taxi to the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Tokyo:

From Narita Airport: Approximately 90 minutes, JPY 22,000

From Tokyo Station: Approximately 25 minutes, JPY 3,500

From Shinbashi Station: Approximately 20 minutes, JPY 3,200

## APPENDIX B

### VISA APPLICATION INFORMATION

NOTE: Please see the following information for reference. For further details, you are required to ask the GEOSS AP Symposium Secretariat for visa application.

\*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan Website:

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/j\\_info/visit/visa/index.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html)

#### 1 A GUIDE TO JAPANESE VISAS

##### 1.1 Exemption of Visas

Visas are not required when applying for landing permission at a port of entry in Japan in the following cases:

##### 1.2 Nationals of Countries and Areas with Visa Exemption Arrangements with Japan

As of April 2006, Japan had taken measures concerning the waiver of visa requirements with 62 countries and regions, as shown in the accompanying table. Nationals of these countries and regions holding valid passports can apply for landing permission for short-term stays for such purposes as sightseeing and business trips without obtaining a visa. However, **cases involving paid activities in Japan are excluded**. Also, the waiver of visa requirements are not applicable in the case of stays exceeding the period of time stipulated in each arrangement. In such cases, it is necessary for foreigners to obtain a visa.

##### 1.3 Those Having Obtained Re-entry Permission

If foreigners who already reside in Japan, having acquired a status of residence for a long-term stay, such as for work, wish to leave the country temporarily during the period for which they have received permission to stay in Japan, they can obtain a re-entry permit before departing Japan. This permit enables them to re-enter Japan without having to obtain a new visa, as long as their re-entry is within the valid period of the permit. For such foreigners, the procedures for entering Japan are **much simpler than the usual landing procedures**.

Applications for re-entry permits can be made at the nearest immigration authority under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice. When re-entry permission is granted, the permit is stamped on the foreigner's passport.

In principle, re-entry permission is valid for only one time. However, foreigners who have to leave Japan frequently can apply for multiple re-entry permits.

It is **not** possible to obtain re-entry permission at an embassy or consulate after departure from Japan. However, if a foreigner who has departed Japan after acquiring re-entry permission is unable to return to Japan before expiration of the permit for unavoidable reasons, such as illness, the foreigner can apply at an embassy or consulate for an extension of the re-entry permit's period of validity.

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**List of Countries and Regions That Have Visa Exemption Arrangements with Japan**  
(62 countries and regions as of April 2006)

<b>Areas</b>	<b>Countries and regions</b>	<b>Term of residence</b>
Asia	Singapore	3 months or less
	Brunei	14 days or less
	Hong Kong (BNO, SAR passport)	90 days or less
	Republic of Korea	90 days or less
	Taiwan	90 days or less
North America	Macau (SAR passport)	90 days or less
	Canada	3 months or less
	U.S.A	90 days or less
	Mexico	6 months or less
	Argentina	3 months or less
	Bahamas	3 months or less
	Chile	3 months or less
Latin America and Caribbean	Costa Rica	3 months or less
	Dominican Rep.	3 months or less
	El Salvador	3 months or less
	Guatemala	3 months or less
	Honduras	3 months or less
	Suriname	3 months or less
	Uruguay	3 months or less
Middle East	Barbados	90 days or less
	Israel	3 months or less
	Turkey	3 months or less
Oceania	Australia*	90 days or less
	New Zealand	90 days or less
Africa	Lesotho	3 months or less
	Mauritius	3 months or less
Europe	Tunisia	3 months or less
	Austria	6 months or less
	Germany	6 months or less
	Ireland	6 months or less
	Liechtenstein	6 months or less
	Switzerland	6 months or less
	United Kingdom	6 months or less
	Belgium	3 months or less
	Croatia	3 months or less
	Cyprus	3 months or less
Denmark	3 months or less	
Finland	3 months or less	
France	3 months or less	

Greece	3 months or less
Iceland	3 months or less
Italy	3 months or less
Luxembourg	3 months or less
Macedonia	3 months or less
Malta	3 months or less
Netherlands	3 months or less
Norway	3 months or less
Portugal	3 months or less
San Marino	3 months or less
Slovenia	3 months or less
Spain	3 months or less
Sweden	3 months or less
Andorra	90 days or less
Bulgaria	90 days or less
Czech Rep.	90 days or less
Estonia	90 days or less
Hungary	90 days or less
Latvia	90 days or less
Lithuania	90 days or less
Monaco	90 days or less
Poland	90 days or less
Slovakia	90 days or less

Notes: In the case of the waiver of visa requirements of up to three months or 90 days, foreigners are granted upon landing a temporary visitor status for a period of 90 days (15 days for Brunei). Nationals of countries and regions that have taken measures concerning the waiver of visa requirements with Japan for stays of up to six months in principle are granted permission to stay in Japan for 90 days at the time of landing. Nationals of these countries and regions who wish to stay in Japan for more than 90 days must apply at their nearest immigration authority in Japan for an extension of their period of stay.

In the case of Australia, Japan adopts a unilateral measure, not a bilateral waiver of visa requirements. In the case of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Iran, the waiver of visa requirements is temporarily suspended.

In the case of Malaysia, Peru and Colombia, it is recommended to obtain visa. In the case of China, visas are not required only for students of elementary, junior and senior high school in China for the purpose of school excursion staying in Japan less than 30 days.

#### **1.4 Special Cases of Landing**

If the passengers of an airplane or ship that lands at an airport or seaport in Japan wish to enter Japan temporarily for shopping or rest, they can receive special landing permission from the immigration authority at the port of arrival even if they do not possess a visa. In principle, applications for such special landing permission are made not by the foreigners wishing to enter Japan themselves but by the captain of their airplane or ship or by the carrier (transportation

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company) operating the flight or voyage. When special landing permission is granted, the foreigners concerned are not given any status of residence or period of stay, but restrictions on landing time and scope of movement are stipulated as conditions for permission. Also, special landing permission is not granted if the applicant will be returning to his or her place of departure (for example, coming from Hawaii and then returning to Hawaii).

Please note that these permits are for very short stays, they cannot be extended, and the route to be followed in transit, etc. is subject to restrictions. If foreigners wish to travel in Japan, they are recommended to acquire a transit visa or a short-term visa before coming to Japan.

**For more details concerning special landing permission, please inquire at the nearest immigration authority.**

**(a) Permission for Landing at Port of Call**

Special dispensation, called a shore pass, may be granted to foreign passengers aboard an airplane or ship that is proceeding to another destination via Japan who wish to enter Japan temporarily for shopping or rest. A shore pass permits such foreigners to enter Japan as long as they remain in the vicinity of their port of call (in principle, the municipality in which the port of call is located) and for a period of less than 72 hours.

**(b) Permission for Landing in Transit**

This dispensation is called a transit pass. There are two types: permission for landing in transit for sightseeing and permission for landing in transit for departure at a neighboring port.

**(i) Permission for landing in transit for sightseeing**

Permission is granted to the foreign passengers of a ship arriving at a Japanese port of entry who wish to travel in Japan for sightseeing purposes and then rejoin the same ship at another port of entry in Japan. This permission is valid for up to 15 days.

**(ii) Permission for landing in transit for departure at a neighboring port**

Permission is granted to foreign passengers of an airplane or ship proceeding to another country via Japan who wish to enter Japan from their first port of call and then move to another port of call in a nearby area for departure. This permission is granted when a foreign passenger wishes to depart Japan within three days.

In principle, another port of call in a nearby area is regarded as a port that is under the jurisdiction of the same regional immigration bureau, or the immigration bureau of a neighboring region. (For example, Narita Airport to Haneda Airport or Narita to Nagoya Airport are acceptable, but Narita Airport to Kansai Airport is not allowed.)