

EXPO 2005: Our Spaceship Earth



By Nakamura Toshio

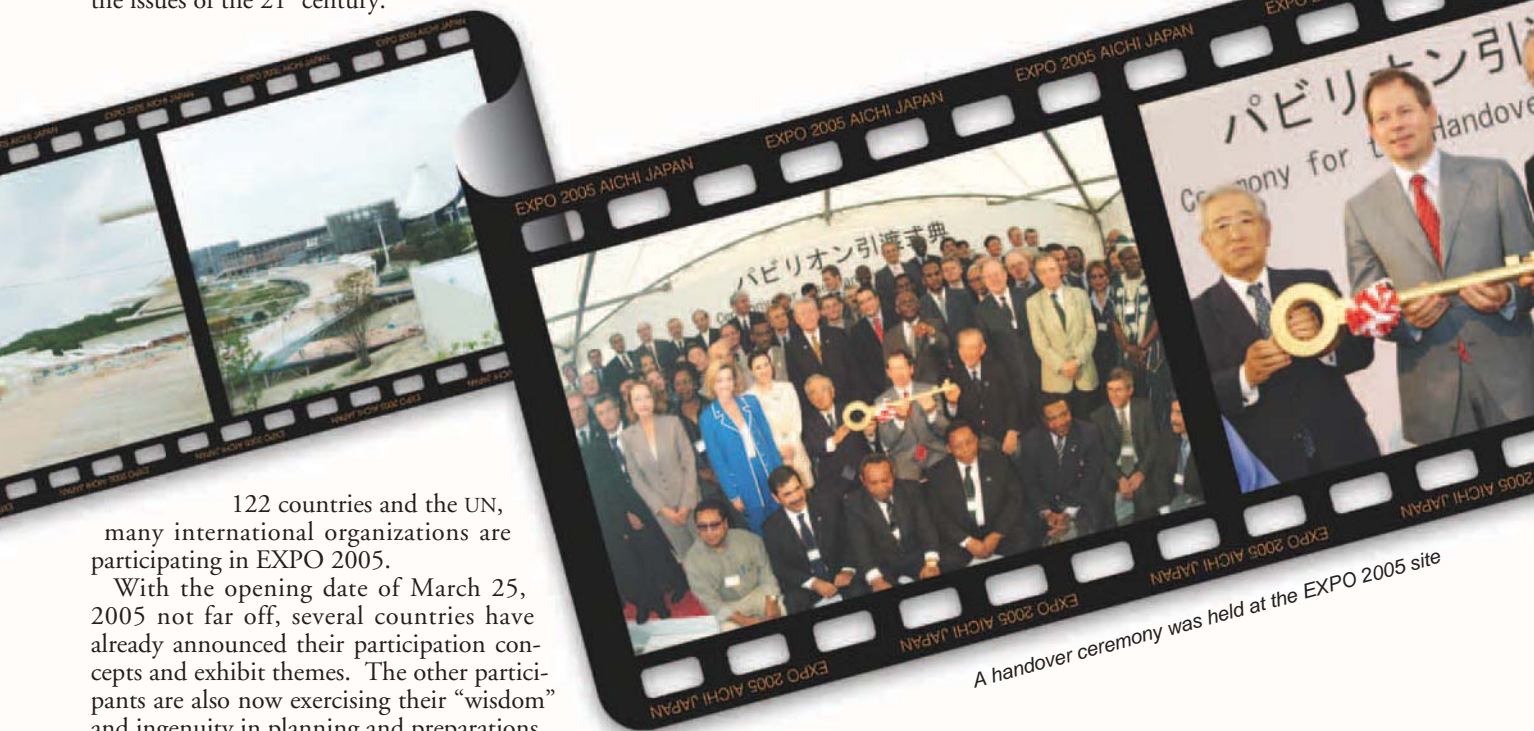
AT the Athens Olympics held this August, many amazing records were achieved. We also got a glimpse of the touching human stories behind the records and competitions. With the great show of interest and enthusiasm from around the world, we once again experienced the sports festival of the Olympics.

If the Olympics are the world festival of sports, then the World Expo is the world festival of culture and civilization.

In order to aim for global peace and development through a festival of culture and civilization, the World Expo needs to address various global issues such as the environment, energy, food and poverty, while sharing wisdom with the whole world to help solve these problems. That's why we want to let people all around the world know about EXPO 2005, get as many of them as possible to participate, and encourage them to discuss the issues of the 21st century.

The theme of EXPO 2005 is "Nature's Wisdom." When considering the future of humanity and this planet, as well as the culture and civilization of the 21st century, the fundamental and natural approach is to treat different peoples, regions and countries with impartiality while maintaining respect and understanding for differences and diversity. At the same time, this approach needs to be applied between people and nature as well, and now that we have entered the 21st century, we face the task of finding a better way.

Companies, NGOs and NPOs are also participating in EXPO 2005. People will be able to exchange their feelings and wisdom on a personal level as well as through exhibits and performances, and we have great expectations for creating significant opportunities for mutual growth.



122 countries and the UN, many international organizations are participating in EXPO 2005.

With the opening date of March 25, 2005 not far off, several countries have already announced their participation concepts and exhibit themes. The other participants are also now exercising their "wisdom" and ingenuity in planning and preparations.

In September, the modules to be used by all the official participating countries and international organizations were completed, and a handover ceremony was held at the EXPO 2005 site. The "wisdom of the world" is really starting to take shape. A second governmental representative conference is also planned for this November. This has spurred the preparations of the official participants and their efforts will come into bloom in just over 5 months.

A handover ceremony was held at the EXPO 2005 site

EXPO 2005 will serve as an incubator for the citizens of the world to see and think about a single planet and plot the future path of our society in the 21st century. In other words, it will serve as our Spaceship Earth. **JS**

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