



Some facts about
The Japan Institute of Architects

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ARCASIA (Forum-18) Council Meeting in Ayutthaya, Thailand

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COUNTRY REPORT 2014-2015

The Japan Institute of Architects

As of April 2015

1. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Japan Institute of Architects (JIA) is Japan's only professional organization of architects. Its principal role is to define and promote the social and legal status of professional architects in Japan.

Following seventy years of efforts on the part of our predecessors to establish the profession of architecture in Japan, the JIA was founded in May 1987. It started by unifying two formerly individual associations that shared the same ideology: The Japan Architects Association (JAA) and The Japan Federation of Professional Architects Association (JFPAA).

As an association of free and independent architects, the JIA is striving to create a greater understanding of the field of architecture within Japanese society, and to establish a firm social foundation and recognition for its members and their foreign counterparts worldwide.

2. CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS

Officers representing the JIA for the fiscal year 2015 (2014/06/27 -2014/06/27) are:

Mr. Taro Ashihara	President
Mr. Nobuo Mori	First Vice President
Mr. Toshio Matsumoto	Vice President
Mr. Yutaka Uenami	Vice President
Mr. Mitsuo Henmi	Vice President
Mr. Nobuya Tsutsui	Executive Director
Mr. Yoshimitsu Nouse	Auditor
Mr. Mitsuyoshi Yamamoto	Auditor



3. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH (as of October 22, 2015)

TYPE	NUMBER	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE (x10 ³ JPY)	TOTAL(x10 ³ JPY)
Full Member	4,017	45,000	180,855
Associate Member	*	*	*
Allied Member	*	*	*
Honorable Member	43	0	0
TOTAL	4,060	—	---

*Variable according to local chapters' rules

4. BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE

Operational funding for the JIA is generated from the assessment of membership fees, admission fees, sales of JIA publications and registration fees paid by both members and non-members for participation in various activities.

In April 2005, the JIA annual membership fee was dramatically reduced by one half to encourage the acquisition of young new members. In April 2011, however, JIA raised the fee to strengthen its financial position.

5. NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

The JIA has ten regional chapters located throughout Japan: Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto-Koushinetsu, Tokai, Hokuriku, Kinki, Chugoku, Shikoku, Kyushu and Okinawa. Each regional chapter includes district organizations that develop community-based activities of architects.

6. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND NATIONAL CONVENTION

The JIA held its 2015 General Assembly in Tokyo on June 25, 2015.

The annual JIA National Convention was taken place in Kanazawa from September 17 to 19, 2015.

7. LEGAL STATUS OF THE JIA IN JAPAN

The JIA was incorporated on June 15, 1987 as a Japanese juridical corporation conforming to Article 34 of the Civil Code and approved by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

The current legal status of JIA is an aggregate corporation for public benefit under article 34 of civil code. JIA is now supervised by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

The Japanese government made a radical reform of Public Interest Corporation legal framework in early 2000s, and the Public Interest Corporation laws were promulgated on June 2, 2006. All current aggregate corporations must be reorganized into a “general incorporated association” or into “authorized public benefit corporation (APBC)” by 30th November 2013. Although there are various tax benefits for APBC, there are a variety of new additional requirements for governance and information disclosure. For this reason, many current corporations have decided to become a general entity, rather than to commit as authorized public benefit. (For detail explanation and analysis of public benefit organization in Japan, refer to “Enabling Civil Society in Japan Reform of the Legal and Regulatory Framework for Public Benefit Organizations” by Karla W. Simon, Columbus school of Law).

JIA has been analyzing the pros and cons of these two legal statuses for many years since 2006. It was finally decided to become APBC at the special JIA General Assembly, held in September 2011.

This decision shows the commitment of JIA to serve the public for the promotion and provision of better built environment. JIA is now strongly promoting the concept of “community architect,” in which the architects play a major role in the quality enhancement of local built environment.

As such, JIA became new APBC in 2013.

8. LEGAL STATUS OF ARCHITECTS IN JAPAN AND

9. REGISTRATION AUTHORITY OF ARCHITECTS IN JAPAN

In Japan, architects are authorized to practice under the “KENCHIKUSHI LAW” (Architect Law) which was enacted in 1950. However, the “KENCHIKUSHI LAW” is applied to both architectural and engineering design, and is fundamentally unique from common architectural regulations established outside Japan.

The Kenchikushi Law was formally amended in January 2007, providing the new additional regulations regarding the qualifications for structural engineer and building mechanical engineers. Also, regular and compulsory training system for the Kenchikushi was introduced. However, the role of an architect under this Kenchikushi law was not amended fully to meet international standards. JIA is continuing its effort to improve the qualification system of architects in Japan.

10. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION OF THE JIA AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The JIA represents “Japan Section” of the International Union of Architects (UIA) as a full member, and has been a member of the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) since 1991.

Additionally, in May 1999, the JIA revised the “Accord of Professionalism” that was concluded with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1989.

The JIA has also exchanged a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage (ASA) in 1993.

In 2003, The JIA exchanged an “Accord on Professionalism” with the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA) and the Korea Institute of Registered Architects (KIRA) respectively.

In 2008, The JIA exchanged an “Accord on Professionalism in Architecture” with the Union of Mongolian Architects (UMA).

The JIA hosted the UIA XXIV Congress and UIA XXV Assembly in Tokyo, Japan in September 2011.

At the end of 2011, the JIA exchanged “Accord on Professionalism in Architecture” with the Architectural Society of China (ASC).

11. MAJOR PROGRAMS OF THE JIA (2014-2015)

- 1) General Assembly: June 25, 2015 in Tokyo.
- 2) “JIA Young Architect Award” of 2014 (refer to item 13).
- 3) “JIA Sustainable Architecture Award” of 2014 (refer to item 13).
- 4) “JIA 25 Years Award (2014)” (refer to item 13)
- 5) ”JIA Architect of 2014,” “JIA Grand Prix” and “JIA Award” (refer to item 13).

12. OUTREACH PROGRAM OF THE JIA

The JIA publishes the periodical “JIA Magazine” on a monthly basis.

13. ARCHITETURAL COMPETITIONS / AWARDS FOR JAPANESE ARCHITECTS

The JIA awards the ”JIA Architect of 2014,” “JIA Grand Prix,” “JIA Award,” “JIA Young Architect Award,” “JIA Sustainable Architecture Award” and “JIA Twenty-Five Year Award” annually. Winners of each award are as follows;

JIA Grand Prix to: • Ms. Kazumi Kudo + Mr. Hiroshi Horiba, “Yamaga Elementary School”

JIA Award to: • Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura, “Sayama Forest Chapel”
• Mr. Yasuyuki Ito, “KOSHINOKUNI Museum of Literature”
• Mr. Norihiko Dan, “Omotesando Keyaki bldg.”
• Mr. Yuji Hamano and Mr. Yasuhiro Mishima, ”Shiseido Ginza Building”

JIA Grand Prix:

Architects: Kazumi Kudo and Hiroshi Horiba, “Yamaga Elementary School”



Photo by Coelacanth K&H



Photo by Satoshi Asakawa

JIA Award

Architects: Hiroshi Nakamura.
“Sayama Forest Chapel®”



Photo by Hiroshi Nakamura and NAP Co., Ltd.

JIA Award
Architects: Yasuyuki Ito,
“KOSHINOKUNI Museum of Literature”



Photo by Hiroshi Ueda

JIA Award

Architects: Norihiko Dan,
“Omotesando Keyaki bldg.”



JIA Award
Architects:
Yuji Hamano and
Yasuhiro Mishima,
”Shiseido Ginza Building”

Photo by Miyagawa



JIA Young Architect Award
Architects: Yuko Nagayama,
“Teshima Yokoo House”



Photo by Daici_Ano

JIA Sustainable Architecture Award
Architects: Masato Sekiya,
“Navi Struct House 2”



Photo by Shinkenchiku

JIA Young Architect Award
Architects: Masahiro Harada / Mao Harada,
“Shore House”



Photo by Kenichi Suzuki

The JIA Young Architect Award to:

- Ms. Yuko Nagayama, “Teshima Yokoo House”
- Mr. Masahiro Harada/Ms. Mao Harada, “Shore House”

The JIA Sustainable Architecture Award to:

(Residential Projects : The First Prize)

- Mr. Masato Sekiya, “Navi Sgruct House 2”

The JIA Twenty-Five Year Award to:

- Mr. Mitsuru Senda, “Sagamigawa River Museum”
- Nihon Sekkei Inc., Muto Institute of Structural Mechanics and Kajima Corporation, “Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo, Main Building”
- Mr. Takashi Hirai, Mr. Tadao Kamei and Mr. Eiichi Muramatsu, “Tokyo DomeW
- Original Architects : Mr. Shoji Hayashi & Ms. Masako Hayashi, Renovation : Mr. Koichi Yasuda, “House in Koishikawa” (Renovation of "Our House")
- Mr. Yoshiaki Ogura, Mr. Hidemasa Kayano, Mr. Hiroyuki Shirai and Mr. Koh Sugiyama, “Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Company Limited, Surugadai Building”
- Takenaka Corporation, “Miwa Somen Yamamoto Headquarters”
- Mr. Hiroshi Oune, “Machida City Museum of Graphic Arts”
- Mr. Masakatsu Tokuoka, “Inazawa City Oguiss Memorial Art Museum”
- Sakakura Associates Architects and Engineers. “Salesian Boys' Home”
- Kume Sekkei Co., Ltd. (Basic Plan : Prof. Tetsuro Ishiguro), Choufu Municipal Gymnasium”
- AXS Satow Inc., “Niigata Prefectural Civic Center”
- Kikutake Architects (Seismic Retrofitting : Kikutake Architects + Shimane Prefecture), “Shimane Prefectural Library”
- Maki and Associates Architecture and Planning, “Katoh Gakuen Gyoshu Elementary School”

JIA Architects of 2014:

100 Japanese architects were selected to be published in the “Japan Architecture of the Year 2014 selected by the JIA”, which is the year book of the JIA. The JIA Grand Prix and JIA Awards were selected from the works published in this book.

14. KEY ISSUES FACING ARCHITECTS AND THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

As stated above, current Japanese “KENCHIKUSHI LAW” (translated as “Architects Law”) defines qualifications both for architects and building engineers, which are remarkably different from architectural standards established by most other countries.

Consequently, the JIA has developed in December 2003, a system known as the Qualification System of Architects in Japan. Additionally, within this context, the JIA has instituted a “Continuing Professional Development” system that is based on the UIA Accord on Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice.

14-1. REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

The Qualification System for JIA Registered Architects was approved by JIA at its general assembly in May 2003, as a certification system that meets or exceeds the standards stipulated by the UIA Accord. The Council of Architect Certification was established soon afterward.

To be certified as a JIA registered architect under this system, current certification as a *First Class Kenchikushi* in combination with five years of practical experience is required. For a new architect, completion of the JIA practical training program is required for certification.

A JIA registered architect who intends to renew his/her registration must acquire a minimum of 108 CPD (Continuing Professional Development) credits over three years. In Japan, there are some other architectural institutions in addition to the JIA, and the JIA's intention is to establish commonality by having these other institutions adopt the Qualification System for Architects as well.

14-2. JIA CPD

The JIA established the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system for JIA members in April 2002. All JIA members are requested to acquire 108 CPD credits for 3 years. One credit is approximately equal to one hour of training. Currently, there are two ways to acquire credits: (1) participate in a program accredited by the JIA CPD Council, or (2) obtain credits through self-motivating training programs. Since JIA members are dispersed across Japan, the JIA places particular importance on self-motivating training.

Generally speaking, training can be categorized into four categories: (1) the social role of an architect, (2) improved practical ability as an architect, (3) improvement in the ability to manage a project, and (4) management of an architectural firm.

Because the JIA established the Qualification System for JIA Registered Architects in 2003 and acquiring CPD credits is mandatory for all registered architects, CPD for JIA members is recommended now.

15. QBS (QUALIFICATION BASED SELECTION) IN JAPAN

In Japan, competitive bidding remains the accepted practice for selecting an architect for public works projects. This is especially true among local governments, where architects selected through a bidding process design more than 80% of all public buildings. The reason for this is that bidding is a comparatively easy selection process. Other selection practices, such as design competitions, place an additional burden on clients in terms of time and cost. However, there is growing concern over the quality of public buildings in Japan, and the JIA believes that improvements in quality cannot be achieved through the practice of bidding.

The JIA has been actively encouraging local governments to adopt Qualification Based Selection (QBS), a system that has been adopted by many countries, as a measure of an architect's ability. The JIA is willing to dispatch experts in building design to act as QBS judges when required to explain the procedures of QBS. Consequently, the JIA is confident in its ability to provide practical examples of selecting an architect through QBS.

16. RESOURCES OF THE JIA

Although established in 1987, the JIA has not yet accumulated significant assets. However, the JIA is striving to further develop the "JIA Architects International Fund" (established in 1992) with the goal of improving international communications among architects in the future.

17. OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES

17-1. EARTHQUAKE

Three years have passed since the Great Earthquake hit the East Japan region on March 11, 2011. JIA still keep working on disaster relief activities voluntarily and performs the damage investigation into cultural assets and heritage building with the local government and the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Such initiatives will be reported at international opportunities including UIA2014Durban under the title of “Beyond Disasters.”

17-2. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1) The third attempt of the international exchange program, “East-East 4,” was carried out from September 23 to September 27, 2013. In this event, Japanese architects and 7 students visited Lithuania, and the students’ workshop, lectures, and architecture exhibitions between Japan and Lithuania were held.

2) Based on the success of UIA2011Tokyo, a new organization, Japan Supporting Board for International Activities of Architecture (JSB), was established in early 2013 with the aim of supporting students of architecture and young architects to encourage them for taking initiative of international activities. In 2014-2015, the following three projects were or are being executed with a great success.

-Select and send one young architects to the Tri-continental Master in Advanced Architectural Design, hosted by Madrid European University (Jan.~Sep. 2015). Related tuition fee is paid by JSB.

-Select and support international programs arranged by students of architecture or young architects. JSB provides grant to each selected program.

-Exchange young professionals, wishing to work in architectural firms for one year (Thailand and Japan for the term 2015~2016). JOB helps the applicants find relevant firms.

17-3. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The JIA has positively promoted the social responsibilities of architects on a variety of issues ranging from the global environmental and urban development for improving living conditions and providing consulting services for citizens with problems at the local level.

These activities are intended not only to address current issues among the adult population, but also to acquaint the younger generation – who hold Japan’s future in their hands – with such issues. In this regard, the JIA is planning fundamental programs that will support educational institutions.

17-4. JIA’s willing to invite ARCASIA 18th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA18) in 2018 to Japan

Since a couple of months, JIA has been considering to bid to hold the ARCASIA 18th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA18) in somewhere in Japan (most probably, ACA18 in Tokyo and the Student Jamboree in other city). This issue was already put on the agenda of the last Council Meeting of JIA, held on 20th October 2015.

JIA is looking forward to receiving your supports for this initiative.

ANNEX:

Recent issue of national concern about the New National Stadium Japan:
JIA took a lead to propose reviewing the national issue regarding the construction of the New National Stadium Japan as follows;

Proposal-1:

Proposal
of
reviewing the former construction plan
for
The New National Stadium Japan

24 July, 2015

Taro ASHIHARA

President, Japan Institute of Architects

Kiyonori MIISHO

President, Japan Federation of Registered Architects & Building Engineers
Associations

Tatsushi OHUCHI

President, Japan Federation of Architectural Firms

To whom it may concern,

We, three recognized organizations related to the architectural design in Japan, welcome very much the recent cancellation of the former construction plan for the New National Stadium Japan under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shinzo ABE. This decision has been made at the very last moment when it is still possible to find solutions to solve the complex problems including 1) townscaping issues, 2) extremely increased construction cost, 3) most difficult task of building construction, 4) risk of construction term, and the like.

However, the time left for the upcoming redesign and construction process is limited. We feel a sense of crisis, therefore, that similar problems may arise again like before, which should not happen. As professional organizations of architectural design, we announce hereby our proposal as follows, so that such an anxiety should not be realized. And we, as the third party organizations, are ready to support as much as possible, when requested to do so.

<The Gist of our Proposal>

1. The revision of design brief:

It should include to 1) Review the “multipurpose use” of the facility, 2) Simplify the stadium functions, as well as 3) Significantly reduce the underground and lower part of building that are very expensive to build.

2. Shorten the redesign and construction period:

To this end, we propose to call again the architectural firms team (Design Joint Venture) in charge of the prior design, and to let them either participate in the design review or be commissioned to do the entire redesign business. We believe that, even if the procedure of separating “Design and Build” be adopted on the basis of this redesign formation, the project completion can be done well in time for the Olympic Games in 2020.

3. Professional and responsible decision making as well as information disclosure:

Relevant experts should be included in the practical project procedure, which allows to make professional decisions even in details of redesign and construction, and to rapidly confirm them as organizational decisions. Adequate disclosure of relevant information shall be also required.

[Contents of the Proposal]

It is reported that the trigger of this cancellation was the enormously increased construction cost, the causes of which are presumably not only the design novelty of the winning project but also the setting the design brief that inevitably required such a large amount of construction.

What we should do now at the beginning of restart is to; 1) Review this design brief, 2) Form a project framework in which the optimal design and construction be conducted under these revised conditions of the brief, as well as 3) Establish the project system in which the explicit responsibility and authority of the entire project be clarified. Also important is that such review should not search for too much commercialism but for dignity. Our proposal concerned are stated as follows.

1. Revision of the design brief

Restarting new design without fully reviewing the prior design conditions will not contribute to largely reducing the construction cost and period. These are the critical risk of this project. It is therefore indispensable to review the brief to minimize those risks at this opportunity of restart.

1) Reconsider the goal of project:

Reevaluate the prior objectives on the assumption of “multipurpose use” of the whole facility, and simplify the stadium building provided only with essential functions through giving appropriate priority to each request from the stakeholders. (Especially, the necessity of the openable roof shall be discussed to be cancelled.)

2) Minimize the facility functions:

Also the function as a stadium should be reconsidered to make it minimum functional composition by reducing associated facilities as much as possible. This may contribute to cutting the cost of construction, operation and maintenance.

3) Reduce the related earth works:

The construction site is located in the central area of Tokyo, where traffic is heavily concentrated and only a limited open space is available in its vicinity. Consequently, carrying out large amount of earth from the site costs tremendous money and time. Therefore, the amount of earth work of digging out and consequent earth transport shall be minimized through cancelling to use too much underground space as well as lower part of the building that are very expensive to build.

4) Try not to exceed an adequate amount of operational expenses including the provisional construction structure on site.

2. Framework in which optimal design and construction work can be conducted

1) Selection of the architect(s)

We consider that it is advisable to call again the prior architects' firms (Joint Venture) who have been in charge of the prior design to date, and to assign them to review the design brief and/or to be in charge of entire redesign works. The reason is that they have already accumulated much relevant experiences and know-how of designing this National Stadium and therefore very much efficiently contribute to shortening the project term by the deadline.

2) How to proceed the redesign and construction

Under the revised design brief, there can be majorly two methods as follows:

A. Separate Design and Build

After the fastest completion of the preliminary and execution design taking advantage of the knowledge accumulated during the prior design works of Joint Venture, an open competitive bidding will be conducted to select the contractor(s).

B. Integrate Design and Build

In this case, there are majorly two process as follows, according to the different timing of contractor’s participation;

- a) Select a unified consortium integrating the preliminary and execution design as well as construction, according to the new design brief.
- b) Select a contractor through an open competitive bidding right after the completion of preliminary design.

We, three recognized organizations related to the architectural design in Japan, believe that even if the Case A (Separate Design and Build) be adopted the completion of the project will be delivered well in time for the inauguration of the Olympic Games in 2020, taking the high ability of design joint venture in Japan into consideration. It is also possible to adopt again the “Early Contract Involvement (ECI) Procedure,” which allows technical collaboration of the contractor(s) during the redesign process.

While in the Case B (Integrate Design and Build), there is an anxiety that it will be difficult to secure the transparency regarding facility program and costs. Therefore, it is advisable to set up a project framework in which commissioned experts can thoroughly investigate the construction and its costs in the place of the client(s).

2015		2016		2017		2020	
Aug	Oct	Sep		Jan		Mar	
2 months	11 months		4 months		38 months		
Revision of Design Brief	Preliminary & Execution Design		Selection of Contractor(s)		Construction		Completion
	Past design JV is to be commissioned		WTO		Under the condition of simplified design brief		

Schedule Image of the Case A (Separate Design and Construction)

3. Project structure with responsibility

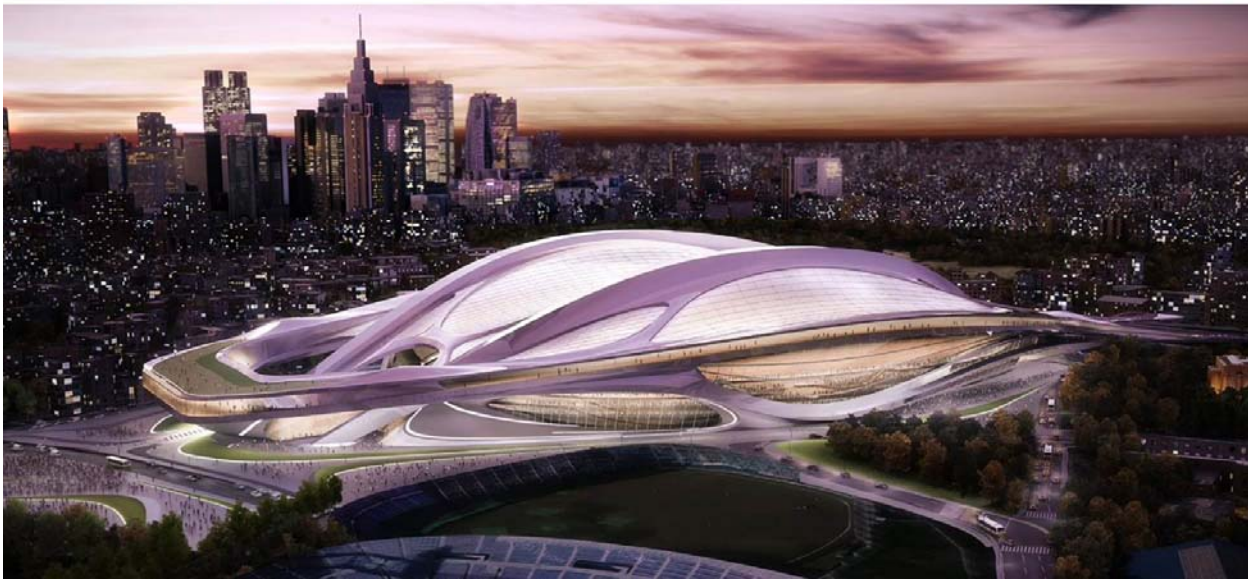
It is reported that the national government has established the “Ministerial Conference Concerned for the Revision of Construction Plan for the New National Stadium Japan” as the national project headquarters. At the level of practical works it is also necessary to provide a solid structure with responsibility in order to make decisions in detail on site. In addition, it is absolutely required that experts with ample knowledge about design, construction and cost participate in the team, for making reasonable plan without any backlash as well as selecting contractor(s).

It should be said, unfortunately, this project has been so far conducted without any open accountability and consequently no nation-wide consensus. Such a gigantic architectural

project has a variety of stakeholders and fully complex nature composed of architectural functions contents, costs and term each other, therefore, account and consensus cannot be easily conducted and reached respectively. However, at the restart of this project, it is absolutely needed to provide public openness and justice that may attain the nation-wide understanding and support. This requires the establishment of an explicit information disclosure system as well as risk communication system in case such problems occur.

We, three recognized organizations related to the architectural design in Japan, would like to announce that we are ready to provide any supports as much as possible, if such is requested to do so, for the great success of this national project.

Above: Former preliminary design for the New National Stadium Japan (May 2014)



Below: Original design by Zaha Hadid at the competition (November 2012)

15 September 2015

Dear Minister Toshiaki Endo,

Chair of the Ministerial Council for the Further Consideration of the New National Stadium Construction Plan

JIA (Japan Institute of Architects)'s opinion
regarding
the proposal program for the New National Stadium Construction
offered for public application

1. The basic concept of the proposal program for the New National Stadium Construction Plan urges participants, as the required level of design works to be submitted, to propose a harmony with the surrounding environment. However, it seems that the given design brief does not provide any concrete directive regarding the maximum height of building, town-scaping considerations to the Gaien Park and its adjacent area, and the like.

We do nevertheless strongly expect that you select a proposal that complies with this basic concept of the Plan.

2. It says also that proposals are invited from around the world to collect global wisdoms for creating such a stadium as a legacy of proud for the next generations. But as the eligibility of the team, it requires to include contractor(s) with experience of having built similar stadiums. Consequently, there is practically no chance for both domestic and foreign designer or design company, not being able to join forces with such contractor(s), to form a proposal team and to apply to this proposal. Given this, number of applicants may be very much limited, which will as a result bring no adequate competitive principle of the proposal.

Moreover, in such a case of design-build team for the construction, no designer from the third party will be included in the team. Therefore, it shall be an important assignment for the client side to secure the transparency regarding the cost as well as the related accountability.

3. Adequate disclosure of information is indispensable for such a project, which is attracting great interests of people. However, the given proposal condition document does not refer to any procedure of such an information disclosure. Therefore, we do strongly ask you to actively conduct this, so that the people understand the contents of the project and the stadium will be of the national pride.

JIA has been already requesting that an advisory organization, which must be very effective for such disclosure of information, be established including some experts of architectural design. We do ask you again to set up a similar body.

JIA, as an organization of the relevant experts, is ready to provide any supports as much as possible, in cooperation with other organizations related to the architectural practice in Japan,

Taro Ashihara

President of the Japan Institute of Architects (JIA)

