



Administrative Evaluation Bureau
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
Government of Japan



International Ombudsman Institute
Institut International de l'Ombudsman
Instituto Internacional del Ombudsman

18 December 2015

IOI Asian Regional Member

Dear Colleagues,

**International Ombudsman Institute Asian Regional Meeting
International Forum “Administrative Grievance Resolution & the Ombudsman”
and International Training Workshop for Asian Ombudsmen**

We are honoured to host the Asian Regional Meeting of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) on 7 March 2016 in Japan. In connection with this meeting we will hold the International Forum and the International Training Workshop for Asian Ombudsmen from 8 to 10 March 2016. It is our pleasure to invite you to attend the Forum and the Training Workshop described below.

International Forum

The International Forum “Administrative Grievance Resolution & the Ombudsman” on the main theme of “Enhancing transparency and responsiveness in public administration” will provide a valuable opportunity for participants to share their experiences, views and ideas as to appropriate approaches and best practices in handling existing problems, and to anticipate fresh challenges which may lie ahead for the Ombudsman Offices.

We have invited Mr. John Walters, President of the IOI and Namibia Ombudsman, Dr. Günther Kräuter, Secretary General of the IOI and Member of the Austrian Ombudsman Board, and other Ombudsmen from the Asian Region to serve as panelists, and Professor Masahiro Horie, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies as a moderator.

International Training Workshop for Asian Ombudsman

The training will be held in collaboration with the Former Ontario Ombudsman, Mr André Marin who has created an extraordinary and well-received training method for ombudsmen and their staff. His approach will be combined with a Japanese approach developed by Japanese academics and practitioners. The Administrative Evaluation Bureau (AEB) has been operating a unique complaint handling and investigation system which is deep-rooted in Japanese culture and society. Applying both Western and Asian methods will be especially useful for Asian ombudsmen with diverse backgrounds.

English will be the official language at the Forum and the Training Workshop. As on previous occasions, participants are invited to make their own arrangements regarding interpreters. If special equipment is required, please inform us.

Registration

The International Forum and the Training Workshop are free of charge for IOI member institutions in good standing. Travel and accommodation costs must be borne by the participants. All participants are requested to fill in the registration form and return the completed form to the Administrative Evaluation Bureau of MIC (ombuds-tokyo2016@soumu.go.jp) by **31 January 2016**. Participants who need an entry visa, will receive the documents to be submitted to the Japanese Embassy in their countries after registering.

Scholarship for Asian IOI Member Institutions

Lastly, I would like to inform you that this program is subsidized by the IOI in the form of scholarships for Asian IOI member institutions with limited resources. These scholarships include refund for economy airfares and accommodation costs (limited number of nights in a selected hotel including breakfast – no extras). Asian IOI members who would like to apply for a scholarship are kindly asked to submit the Scholarship application form along with necessary documents to both the IOI General Secretariat (ioi@volksanwaltschaft.gv.at) and the Administrative Evaluation Bureau of MIC (ombuds-tokyo2016@soumu.go.jp) by **20 January 2016**.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Satomi Muto, Conference secretariat of the Administrative Evaluation Bureau of MIC by e-mail (ombuds-tokyo2016@soumu.go.jp), phone (+81 3 5253 5422) or fax (+81 3 5253 5426).

I look forward to your participation in the Conference.

Yours sincerely,

新井 豊

Yutaka Arai

The Ombudsman, Japan

Director-General, Administrative Evaluation Bureau

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications