

MARCH 1993

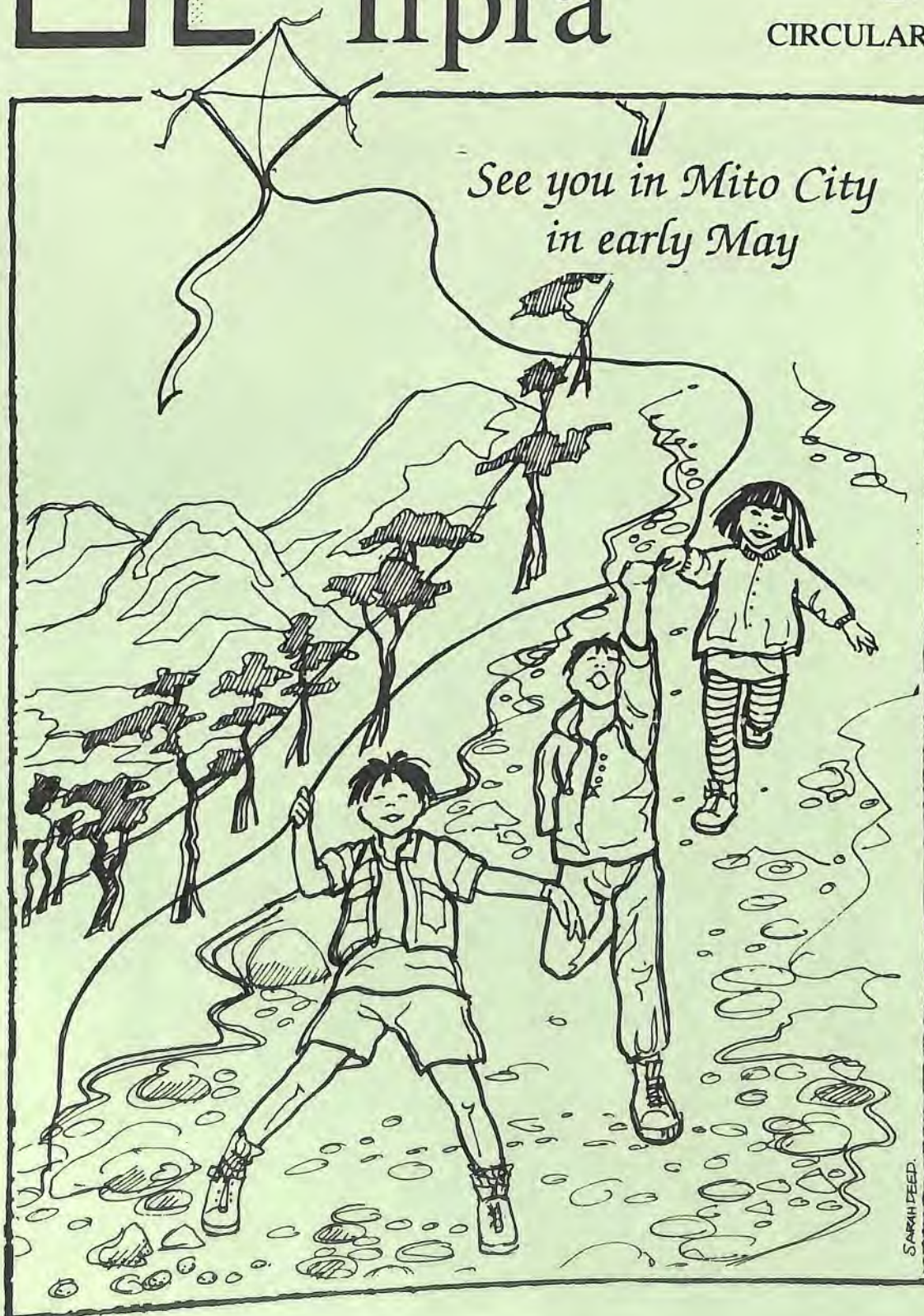


Asia · Pacific

Ifpra

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CIRCULAR



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARK AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATION
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SERVICES DES ESPACES VERTS ET DE LA RECREATION
INTERNATIONALE ORGANISATION OFFENTLICHER VERWALTUNGEN FUR GRUNFLACHEN UND ERHOLUNG

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**IFPRA ASIA PACIFIC CONGRESS
MITO CITY : MAY 11-15 1993**

SEE YOU IN MITO CITY IN EARLY MAY!

DO NOT MISS OUT

HURRY HURRY, FAX YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!

Information is available from:
1993 IFPRA Asia Pacific Congress Head Quarters
3F Fukide No. 2 Building 4-1-21 Toranomon
Minato-Ku Tokyo 105 Japan
Phone: 81-3-3431-4865
Fax: 81-3-3436-4548

EXTENDED CLOSING DATE 20 APRIL 1993 FOR LATE APPLICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARK AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATION
1993 ASIA PACIFIC CONGRESS
and
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN 35TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE
**PARK DYNAMISM - PARK AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATION -
PROVIDING FOR CREATIVE LIFE STYLES**

May 11-15 1993

Mito City, Ibaraki Prefecture, JAPAN

PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION FORM

(I shall be accompanied by _____ persons)

Name: _____
Title: Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms _____
Organisation: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Facsimile: _____

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

I am pleased to report that IFPRA World is making good progress in its membership drive and IFPRA Asia Pacific now has 173 members, an increase of 48% since March 1991. To my pleasure we now have five professional members from Taiwan, a wonderful start to their IFPRA representation.

OOPS! Golden Wattle IS Australia's National Floral Emblem

Unfortunately the information I obtained on the Golden Wattle *Acacia pycnantha* was out of date and I am grateful for Dr Paul Wycherley for drawing the error to my attention. Paul thinks it was proclaimed as Australia's National Flower in 1988 during Australia's Bicentennial Year of white settlement, or very shortly afterwards. The flower is a lovely golden orb seen in winter (or very shortly afterwards) and early spring. It is a very worthy recipient and is on the motif on the Order of Australia's badge as well as on many other Australian emblems.

Chairmanship of IFPRA Asia Pacific

My short term as Chairman is drawing to a close and I would like to thank the support given by various people, especially Dr Kanzo Hirano during my Chairmanship.

Expansion

There is certainly a need to expand the number of countries represented in IFPRA Asia Pacific, as well as increased membership in each country, there are over sixty countries in the Region and we have representatives from only 16 countries. Some consideration is also being given to the boundaries of the Region, however, if we are the IFPRA Asia Pacific Region, then I do not see how we can change the representation as both the Asia and Pacific Regions have clearly defined official boundaries. I do not see how we could define ourselves as 'Part of Asia/Pacific Region', perhaps 'Mid-Eastern Asia/Pacific Region'. Comments are welcome.

Statutes

In my other role as Chairman of the Statutes Committee, I believe I have, with the fine assistance of my Committee, achieved in formulating a set of Statutes that covers many of the needs of a growing international organisation heading into the 21st Century. These were endorsed at the Commission meeting in Hong Kong with the view to incorporation in the near future.

Initiatives for the Region

As Inaugural Chairman, I have endeavoured to set a program to be followed up in future years in that I would like to see the formation of a number of Committees to assist with the work of the Region and have proposed to the Regional Council the following committees be appointed:

- Membership
- Finance
- Publications
- Future Congresses

In addition, a survey of members is proposed to ascertain their interest and attitudes in IFPRA Asia Pacific. This will help us understand the best ways of servicing members.

These initiatives will be discussed at the IFPRA Asia Pacific meeting in Mito City.

Secretary to IFPRA Asia Pacific Region

Our congratulations to John Brandenburg on his appointment as Secretary to IFPRA Asia Pacific. A CV will be in our next Circular.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

I am still anxious to receive articles for the Circular from around the Asia Pacific Region.

My best thanks are due to:

- . Mr Susuma Hotta, Secretary General, Parks & Open Space Association of Japan, or his fine article on the Association, as well as the obituary on Mr Mori, President of POSAJ and of the Organising Committee for the Congress;
- . Peter Maxwell from Frankston for his very interesting contribution on the Hong Kong Congress and the tour of China;
- . My thanks also to Dr Kanzo Hirano for sending me notes on Tsukuba Science City.

Notes on Members

Japan

It is with a great deal of regret we inform members of the untimely death of Mr Takao Mori who was a stalwart supporter of the Region. I have written, on your behalf, to both the Association and Mrs Mori expressing our deep regret. We welcome Mr Shunji Kawana as the new President.

New Zealand

The new President of the new New Zealand Recreation Association (incorporating the Institute of Parks & Recreation Administration of New Zealand and several other recreation organisations) is M/s Robin Cockburn, P.O. Box 10-306 Dominion Road, Auckland NZ. Phone: (09) 6302909 Fax: (09) 6389911. The Executive Director is M/s Lesley Firkins Grey and the Executive Assistant is Mr Paul MacLennan. Their address is P.O. Box 27-161 Upper Willis Street, Wellington N.Z. Phone: (04) 8013896 Fax: (04) 8013161.

We welcome them as officials of the new Association and look forward to an extension of the excellent links we had with the old Institute to the mutual benefit of both our organisations.

I hope to have a note or two on the new organisation and its executive in the next Circular.

TSUKUBA Science City

Delegates attending the Mito City Congress will be most interested and fascinated by their visit to Tsukuba Science City, scheduled for 14th May.

The Japanese Cabinet adopted the concept of the city in September 1963 with two major aims, firstly to relieve the over-population of Tokyo, and secondly promote higher levels of research and education.

The development costing 1.5 trillion yen to 1980, has resulted in over 40 national education and research institutions being built in an area of 2700 Ha by 1980, along with the complete infrastructure of services.

Facilities of the City

Under the city centre zone, 4.7 Kms of utility tunnels were built, they house low vacuum conveyor pipes for refuse collection, heating and cooling pipes, power cables, telephone lines, water supply, sewerage and CATV cables. The system saves digging up streets and the ready servicing and maintenance of all facilities.

Parks and Walkways

There are 94 parks and wooded areas in the 100 Ha Research and Education District. Doho Park has a solar heated swimming pool. Ninomiya Park has a swimming pool and tennis courts, while Oshimizu Park is famous for its beautiful fountain. All parks are linked by some 48 Km of pedestrian/cycle paths. The main path is 16 metres wide, the Tsukuba Koen Dori cuts its way through the city North to South with urban facilities, parks and public squares being built along this path.

I'm sure all delegates will be most interested in inspecting such an up-to-date city which not only caters for research and education but also for the residents in the most up-to-date manner possible, and at the same time providing very pleasant recreational facilities.

SECRETARY'S PAGE

1996 AND 1999 IFPRA ASIA PACIFIC CONGRESSES CALL FOR SUBMISSION TO HOLD CONGRESSES

Nominations are called to hold the 1996 and 1999 IFPRA Asia Pacific Congresses.

The IFPRA Asia Pacific Region Commission has generally endorsed the proposal to hold their Regional Congresses every three years, alternating with the World Congress, and that of the European Region. Generally, it is expected that a country's Park and Recreation Association would be expected to organise a joint Congress/Conference with the IFPRA Region's Congress. Support of a major city as well as the National and State or Regional governments would also be expected. Further information is available from the Secretary. Applications and/or expressions of interest to be in my hands by 5 May 1993.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE IFPRA ASIA PACIFIC REGION

A G E N D A

IFPRA Asia Pacific General Assembly Meeting, to be held at Mito Plaza Hotel, Mito City Japan, on Saturday 15th May 1993 commencing at 2.00pm

1. Opening of Meeting (Chairman)
2. Address by IFPRA World President, Roger Pollard
3. Handover Ceremony to new Chairman
4. Address and Welcome by Chairman
5. Address by Immediate Past Chairman
6. Introduction of Secretary
7. Apologies
8. Minutes of Assembly Meeting - Adelaide 1990
9. Matters arising from the Minutes
 - 9.1 English to be official language
 - 9.2 Auditor - Mr Robin Magree of Melbourne
 - 9.3 Member countries of Region
 - 9.4 Secretariat to be in Melbourne
 - 9.5 Site of Future Congresses
10. Matters arising from the Meetings of the Commission in Hong Kong and Mito City (a supplementary agenda will be issued on these items at Mito City)
11. Financial Statements
12. Proposed Future Congress
13. Acknowledgement of support by Royal Australian Institute of Parks and Recreation
14. Other Business
15. Date and place of next meeting
16. Conclusion

NOTE: Official Language - English (simultaneous translation into Japanese will be provided). The support of the Parks and Open Space Association of Japan in providing these facilities is greatly appreciated.

John Brandenburg
24 March 1993

THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN

Susumu Hotta, Secretary General

1. Our History and Activities

(1) **Establishment**

The Parks and Open Space Association of Japan (POSAJ) was established in 1936 to promote the preservation of natural greenery in cities and their surrounding areas and the development of parks and open spaces.

Founding members included local governments and landscape architecture specialists. In its early years, POSAJ conducted various activities to create more parks and open spaces and educated the public under the guidance by Ministry of Interior. It published *Parks and Open Space*, the Association's Journal, and provided information and technical knowledge to its members.

(2) **The 1940s**

At the time of the Association's founding, urban areas were blessed with a rich natural environment and there were many recreation areas near cities. Administrative agencies and citizens, therefore, had very little awareness regarding parks, open spaces and outdoor recreation. During the war years from 1941 to 1945, POSAJ was forced to suspend publication of its journal, but after the conclusion of the war, this activity was promptly recommenced. For about a decade after the war, administrative agencies focused their energy on rebuilding much of the country that had been reduced to ashes. Because Japan was in a state of economic ruin, the importance of parks and open spaces was under-rated, and very little public investment was spent on their development.

(3) **The 1950s and 1960s**

After 1955 the Japanese economy experienced rapid growth. Population and industry became concentrated in the urban areas, and motorization advanced rapidly. Pollution and environmental destruction were recognised as new urban issues, and public awareness regarding greenery gradually heightened.

To facilitate an even more active conduct of its activities, POSAJ was incorporated in 1967 with the approval of the Minister of Construction, who is in charge of urban park administration, and the organisation was expanded and strengthened.

With the aim of promoting awareness of the need for parks and open spaces, the Association prepared designs one after another for parks and open spaces, the municipal parks, conducted various educational activities and made policy proposals.

(4) **The 1970s and 1980s**

At the Japan World Exposition held in Osaka in 1970, the Japanese government decided to construct a Japanese garden on an unprecedented scale as a part of its exhibits. Commissioned by the government to prepare the design for the garden, POSAJ contributed to the creation of a modern Japanese garden that expressed the essence of traditional landscape architecture techniques.

Exhibit of this garden was a turning point in a tremendous growth in the interest of Japanese people in parks and recreation.

Local governments also began to actively promote greenery in urban areas and the development of urban parks as priority activities for local administrations.

(5) **The 1990s**

Reflecting the trend of the times, the International Garden and Greenery Exposition that was held in Osaka in 1990 attracted more than 23 million people. This large attendance clearly indicates the degree of the Japanese people's interest in parks and gardens.

At present, many foundations are being established in Japan to spread greenery and flowers throughout urban areas and conduct technological research and development. As well, many associations dedicated to preserving parks and open spaces, as well as improving technology related to park design and construction are being created. POSAJ leads these foundations and associations and conducts a variety of non-profit activities regarding parks and greenery in urban areas.

(6) **Promotion of International Exchange**

Recently, POSAJ decided to actively promote technological exchange with various countries to improve landscape architecture technology and to contribute to the resolution of global environmental issues.

For this reason, we have established an International Committee as an advisory body to the President and created a structure to examine and discuss international exchange projects. At present, POSAJ actively participates in the International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration (IFPRA) and the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) and is working to further bilateral exchanges with various countries.

To commemorate the achievements of Dr Akira Sato, a former President of POSAJ, we have established the Sato Fund for Awarding Prizes to Promote International Exchange (tentative name). This Prize will be awarded for contributions to international exchange in the field of parks and open space, and will provide financial support for overseas study to promising young specialists who intend to be active in this field. The first award ceremony will be held in Mito City in May this year. As a part of our activities to promote international exchange, these awards are targeted at specialists not only in Japan but throughout the world. (If you have an interest in either of these awards, please contact the POSAJ secretariat.)

2. Purpose and Activities

POSAJ conducts the following activities for the sound development of parks and open spaces and for the promotion of greenery and beautification of urban areas:

- (a) Publish the journal "Parks and Open Space", specialized books and educational pamphlets;
- (b) Hold classes, lectures and exhibitions;
- (c) Research and study basic policy issues and specialized technical issues; release research results; make proposals;
- (d) Conduct researches and prepare plans and designs on a commission basis from the national and local governments (100 to 150 projects per year);
- (e) Hold national conferences in both the spring and autumn;
- (f) Present awards for outstanding achievements and hold contests in design, construction and maintenance;
- (g) Promote international exchange projects and conduct overseas study tours;
- (h) Educate the public and implement promotional projects about park and open space development, as well as greenery in urban areas.

3. Membership (as of April 1, 1992)

(1) Regular Members	1576
a. Prefectural governments	47 (all in Japan)
b. Cities, towns and villages	1074 (There are 656 cities and 2590 towns and villages in Japan)
c. Non-profit bodies	42 (Public Service Corporations)
d. Private individuals	413 (Specialists and Students)
(2) Supporting Members	248 (Corporations)
TOTAL:	<u>1824</u>

4. Organization

[Decision-making organ]	General Assembly - Board of Directors (20 directors)
[Executive organ]	President - Vice President - Executive Director - Secretary General
[Advisory body]	Meeting of Advisers (non-standing; Honorary president and 5 advisers) International Committee (standing; 30 members)
[Secretariat]	<div> <div>Secretary General</div> <div> <div>General Affairs Department (1 section)</div> <div>Accounting Department (2 sections)</div> <div>Business Department (1 section)</div> <div>Research Department (2 sections)</div> </div> </div> <div>Research office on International Exchange</div>



OBITUARY

Takao Mori, President of the Parks and Open Space Association of Japan, passed away from acute heart failure on the third day of February at his home in Tokyo. He was the age of seventy five.

Mr Mori held a position in the Ministry of Interior in 1941 after graduating from the agricultural department of Tokyo Imperial University (now the University of Tokyo). Throughout his career, he was engaged in the administration of city planning and city park's construction.

In 1967, he retired from active government service after presiding over the Parks and Greens Division of the Ministry of Construction as its Director.

After that, he held various posts in public corporations, such as Managing Director of Parks and Recreation Foundation, Executive Director and Vice President of POSAJ etc, continuing to make great contributions in the field of park and open space administration.

He assumed office as President of POSAJ in 1991, a position in which he was to play a leading role in development of parks and open spaces in Japan.

As a vigorous supporter of international exchange for the purpose of advancing related technology, Mr Mori particularly emphasised that the people involved in this field should form a worldwide cooperative system through which they can develop the field of parks and open spaces, as well as enhancing the public awareness of their importance and contributing to the protection of the global environment.

To achieve these objectives, he acted vigorously, being a major force behind the establishment of IFPRA Asia Pacific and IFPRA Japan.

In recent times, he was Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Japan National Conference of POSAJ and IFPRA Asia Pacific Congress to be held in Mito City, Japan, in this May.

Shunji Kawana, Vice President of POSAJ, is carrying out Mr Mori's duties as the Acting President. A new President will be elected at the extraordinary general meeting of our Association to be held at the end of March. The Mito convention will be held as scheduled.

Mr Mori is survived by his wife, Mrs Chinoko, and by a son and a daughter.

*Susumu Hotta
Secretary General of POSAJ*

A FEW NOTES ON PROFESSOR KANZO HIRANO,
CHAIRMAN-ELECT OF IFPRA ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Kanzo Hirano

FORMAL EDUCATION

B. Agri. from Tokyo University, 1955; Dr Agri. from Tokyo University, 1983

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, Tokyo University of Agriculture, 1986-present.
Counsellor of Japan Environment Corporation, 1981-1986

Director of Big Projects Section, Metropolitan Areas Planning Bureau, National Land Agency, 1978-1981

City Planning Section and Park & Open Space Section, City Bureau, Ministry of Construction, 1955-1978

OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

President of City Planning Institute of Japan, 1991-present

Vice President of Japanese Institute of Landscape Architects, 1991-present

Chairman of Scenic Control Council of Shizuoka Prefecture, 1989-present

Executive Director, Parks and Open Space Association of Japan, 1988-present

Member of City Planning Council of Tokyo Metropolis, 1986-present

Member of City Planning Council of Shizuoka Prefecture, 1981-present

IFPRA MATTERS

Professional Member of IFPRA, 1989-present

Executive Director, IFPRA Japan, 1990-present

Commissioner for Japan, 1991-present

Member of International Committee, 1991-present

Chairman-elect of IFPRA Asia Pacific Region, 1992-present

As you can see, there are many demands on his time and it is pleasing to note that he is prepared to spare time from his very busy schedule to help IFPRA Asia Pacific.

It is confidently anticipated that Kanzo will be elected Chairman of the IFPRA Asia Pacific Region during the Congress at Mito City, replacing the current Chairman, Trevor Arthur, Australia.



IFPRA WORLD CONGRESS - HONG KONG

Several hundred delegates and accompanying persons, gathered in Hong Kong for the 1992 World Congress of IFPRA from 18-24 October 1992.

I was fortunate to be able to take part in both the Congress and the Post Congress Tour of China and Macau. I would like to share with members some of my observations and experiences of these events.

The Host City

Hong Kong is a very scenic city with a lovely harbour separating Hong Kong Island from Kowloon on the mainland. The backdrop of mountains, together with the multitude of high-rise buildings and the harbour, provide exceptional vistas.

The Congress Venue

The Congress was held at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, situated on the harbour front of Kowloon. The adjacent Space Museum was also used for some Congress sessions. Both buildings were attractively decorated for the Congress and the main lobby of the Cultural Centre featured several trade displays.

Congress - Some Highlights

Opening Ceremony - The opening ceremony was very colourful and vigorous, and the delegates and guests enjoyed the skilled performance of a traditional Chinese Lion Dance. This was followed by the welcoming addresses from officials of IFPRA and the Chairmen of both the Urban and the Regional Councils of Hong Kong.

In the afternoon, delegates visited Hong Kong Park and the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens.

Hong Kong Park - Hong Kong Park, 10 Ha in the Central Business District of Hong Kong, is managed by the Island's Urban Council of Hong Kong. Its planning and development was a joint project between the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club and the Urban Council, at a cost of \$HK390 million.

It is most attractive and functional containing numerous facilities, including an indoor games hall and squash centre, a children's playground, the Edward Youde Aviary, the Forsgate Conservatory, a restaurant and garden plaza, and museum.

The facilities within the Park are linked by a network of graded paths with very many effective water features. A lookout tower provided vistas of the area which includes a fine collection of trees and shrubs.

The park is surrounded by imposing high rise buildings, themselves of great interest and style.

Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens - These Gardens are the Territories' oldest and were founded in 1871. Although quite small, they provide a welcome respite from the bustle of the surrounding city. The Gardens house an excellent collection of animals, including several endangered species, and also display a wide range of plants. Both collections provide a major educational resource.

POST CONGRESS TOUR TO CHINA - MACAU

Some one hundred and sixty delegates departed from Kowloon Railway Station on the through train to Guangzhou on Sunday October 25, 1992.

The sharp contrast between Hong Kong and China became evident one hour later when we crossed the frontier. The train slowed and guards in uniform climbed aboard to accompany us to Guangzhou. The countryside quickly changed to agricultural areas dotted with small villages linked by dusty roads(?) and the occasional, often small factory, tile or cement plant.

The highly labour-intensive nature of all tasks were quickly evident. Few tractors, trucks or cars were seen. There were many thousands of bikes, including cycles and tricycles, as well as the pushbikes, occasional motor bikes and few tractors, mechanical cement mixers or excavators. Every square metre of land which was usable appeared to be utilised and the fields were packed with workers.

Upon arrival in Guangzhou we boarded a bus to our hotel, the White Swan, which is an amazingly beautiful oasis on the banks of the Pearl River. This was the starting point for several days of touring China to inspect the local parks and gardens and enjoy some of the religious and cultural aspects of Chinese lifestyles. We also experienced the delicacies of Chinese cuisine in many forms.

Whilst touring China we visited several formal parks within the major cities. These were generally in need of attention. Provision of water reticulation in many was lacking and maintenance often neglected. The South China Botanic Garden, certainly requires an injection of capital to restore the glasshouses and shadehouses in disrepair, plant labelling, interpretation facilities and replanting all needed more attention.

The wide tree-lined streets are to be commended in many cities. Although choked with traffic and people, it is pleasing to see the importance placed on the streetscapes, through tree planting, most of which did not appear to be pruned away from electricity conductors.

However, it was disappointing to see the clearing of many areas for road and housing construction with apparent disregard for the environmental impact of such projects, or often with little or no regeneration or erosion control.

There were some very scenic areas such as the Seven Star Crag Park near Zhaoqing, which contained some unusual rock formations, caves and natural vegetation and water features.

Later, we saw many beautiful handcrafts from pottery, silk, tapestries, carpets and had the opportunity to enjoy a visit the Chinese in their homes in one village.

Upon leaving China, we entered Macau. Macau being a Portuguese Territory and was quite different from both Hong Kong and China. It is a small area consisting of land on the mainland and two small islands. We were officially welcomed at City Hall by The Chairman and members of Council, and shown through the Territory by our friends from the Macau Sports Institute and Local Authority. We enjoyed the serenity of the gardens in the centre of the city which, although quite small, had been expertly landscaped to conceal this fact. A visit to the Sports Centre, beach and the village on Coloane Island were also highlights of our visit to Macau.

In closing, I would like to thank all our hosts and the guides who accompanied us on the Post Congress Tour, and the Organising Committee. I am sure that everyone had a most enjoyable and enlightening time.

Peter Maxwell (Frankston, Victoria, Australia)

Facilities of the New Territories

On day three, delegates were taken to the New Town Developments in the New Territories. Visits were made to the New Town Housing Estate, Hong Kong Sports Institute, Sha Tin Racecourse, Sha Tin Central Park, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre and the Lions Nature Education Centre.

The New Town Estates - These estates are situated on the mainland some 30 minutes from central Kowloon and are the dormitory suburbs for millions of Hong Kong citizens. It is a remarkable experience to see kilometres of rows of high rise buildings which are grouped together as small cities each with full recreational, health, welfare, shopping, transport and educational facilities for the residents.

Sha Tin Central Park - It is a major regional park developed by the Regional Council, situated in their locality. It comprises 8.5 hectares of gardens of various styles, water features and children's playground.

Sha Tin Racecourse

Sha Tin Racecourse, opened in 1978, was built by the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club. This is an outstanding facility containing a large central public park - Penfold Park - which is open daily except on race days. The Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club is a non-profit organisation which has control of all gambling in the Territory. Its considerable surplus funds are returned to the community in the form of provision of many services and facilities.

To date, many millions of dollars have been allocated to provide facilities, including Victoria Kowloon and Hong Kong Parks, Jubilee Sports Centre, Hong Kong Performing Arts Centre, Ocean Park Amusement and Theme Park, Hong Kong University of Technology and, currently under construction, a new National Sports Stadium, as well as many other projects.

This has proved to be an excellent way of providing these much needed facilities and services to the citizens of Hong Kong and the Club is to be commended for these outstanding projects.

Country Parks - On the final day, the delegates visited two large country parks. Three quarters of the land area of Hong Kong is classified as countryside, containing more than 20 country parks. These are very scenic areas containing a wide variety of landscapes, including coastal beaches, islands, forests, hills and reservoirs. There are numerous picnic areas, paths for short or long hikes, an arboretum, streams, lookouts and secluded beaches, all of which are very heavily patronised by both Hong Kong residents and visitors alike. Certainly they are essential for the well being of the residents living in the high-rise housing estates.

This was my first attendance at an IFPRA Congress and it certainly will not be my last. I congratulate Roger Pollard and his organising Committee for a wonderful event. Although I have not mentioned any of the papers presented, those which I heard were excellent and I eagerly await the publication of the Congress Proceedings which should be essential reading for all Park Managers. I recommend to Park professionals' attendance at IFPRA Congresses not only for the enhancement of knowledge, but for the comradeship of delegates who have a common interest, and which will continue, I am sure, long after the event is over.

Peter Maxwell (Frankston, Victoria, Australia)