Japan, report 2011

On behalf of all the members of the IAML Japan branch, I would like to express my heart-felt gratitude for the friendly communications, inquiries, and messages of encouragement sent to them from IAML members around the world after the Great East Japan Earthquake on 11 March 2011 and the tsunami which followed it. Fortunately, none of the Japanese members have been reported missing or seriously hurt. Unfortunately, many of their libraries, public or private, suffered serious damage and they have been working hard on recovery.

As of 28 May 2011, the Japan branch has 74 members, of which 57 are individuals and seventeen institutions.

The committee meetings have been held four times since the Moscow conference to discuss various problems related to music libraries in Japan and to the lack of proper educational system of training young music librarians. The project for training music librarian, as a part of the thirtieth anniversary projects of the IAML Japan, has been continued and will be carried on in and after 2011, with cooperation of the Music Library Association of Japan (the MLAJ) after 24 June 2011.

The regular meetings have been held twice since the Moscow conference. At the 49th meeting (5 December 2010), Harumichi YAMADA delivered a Japanese version of his talk on popular music in Japan, which he gave at the IAML 2010 Moscow; and at the 50th meeting (28 May 2011). Soh FUJIMOTO gave a talk on activities of the Historical Records Archive Promotion Conference (the HiRAC), explaining how to digitize information about SPs and LPs and to report it to the National Library of Japan.

Three issues of the Newsletter have appeared between August 2010 and April 2011.

Newsletter No. 39 (August 2010) reported mainly about the general assembly of IAML Japan held on 5 June 2010; Newsletter No. 40 (November 2010) covered the IAML 2010 Moscow conference and also the report by Keiichi KUBOTA on the 48th regular meeting; and Newsletter No. 41 (April 2011) reported on the 49th regular meeting.

On 25 May 2011 the Archives of Modern Japanese Music were opened within the Meiji Gakuin University Library. The archives now have the collections originally owned by the Documentation Centre for Modern Japanese Music, which was closed in March 2010. Those who are interested are advised to contact them beforehand: The Archives of Modern Japanese Music, Meiji Gakuin University Library, 1-2-37 Shirokanedai, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-8636 JAPAN. Currently contact is only via letter.

The general assembly of IAML Japan in 2011 was held on 28 May, followed by the 50th regular meeting. In order to encourage young music librarians to participate in the IAML international conferences, the Japanese branch has a program to support them financially and this year the
assembly approved the proposal to nominate Keisuke TERAMOTO as the recipient; he is not a librarian, but his work on library materials has been recognized to be the equivalent.

On 30 May 2011 the Research Committee of Musical Sources in Japan was reorganized by the Musicological Society of Japan (the MSJ), while Keiichi KUBOTA continues to serve as the chairman. This time the committee consists of seven members, four researchers in special fields, three more researchers, and three advisors: eighteen members in total. Of the seven committee members two, Hiroko KISHIMOTO and Mariko TERAMOTO, represents IAML Japan. The committee continues to do research on historically important musical sources in Japan, supported by the subsidy from the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Meanwhile the year 2011 is an election year for new committee members. Accordingly an election committee was organized, consisting of three members: Yasuko TODO (chairperson), Yoshiko MORI, and Shun’ichi TESHIROGI. The election was held from February to April 2011, and, in accordance with the results, the new committee met first time on 29 June. The new committee consists of the following members, who will direct activities of IAML Japan in the next three years.

- President: Masakata KANAZAWA
- Vice-President: Tsuneko ARAKAWA
- Secretary: Yumiko HASEGAWA
- Treasurer: Hiromi HOSHINO
- Members at large: Shin’ya KATO; Shu-Ji Lin; Daisaku MUKAI, Yoko OGURA; Harumichi YAMADA; and Kazune YANAGIHARA

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