International Commission on Large Dams 24th Congress in Kyoto

WFEO VP and Chair CDRM ISHII, Yumio

I have been invited as WFEO Vice President and have attended to the 24th Congress of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) from 6th to 8th June 2012 in Kyoto, Japan. The Congress made a great success with 1,400 participants from 73 countries.

Organizer: Japan Commission on Large Dams (JCOLD)

Chair of the Organizing Committee: Dr. Tadahiko SAKAMOTO, President of JCOLD

Guests of Honor: Mr. Ken OKUDA, Vice Minister of MLIT, Japan

Dr. Jinsheng JIA, President of ICOLD, China

Discussion Themes:

Main themes of discussions include; impact of extreme events on dam safety, energy economy based on Energy Payback Ratio (EPR), and environment conservation, etc.

Declaration of General Council

World Declaration: Water Storage for Sustainable Development

- 1. Water is life and water storage infrastructure is an indispensable tool for society.
- 2. Investment in water storage infrastructure is investment in the green economy.
- 3. The services they provide will be crucial in the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.
- 4. To meet growing demands for water, food and energy, it is time to develop solutions for better use of water resources, especially for developing countries, and to match political commitments with action.
- 5. A balanced approach, combining large, medium and small reservoirs, is required; one that takes into account sustainable development, with full commitment to minimize negative impact.
- 6. The organizations signing this declaration commit to collaborate with all partners and stakeholders that share this common vision.

Cultural Programs

Taking advantage of the host venue being located in the ancient capital Kyoto, participants enjoyed a variety of events such as tours to old temples and shrines, viewing Maiko performance, flower arrangements and tea ceremonies, and Origami lessons, etc.