

ICOMOS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

For the attention of:
The President of Sumitomo Realty &
Development Co. Ltd
Mr Ken-ichi Onodera

The Governor of Tokyo
Mr Sintaro Ishihara

The Mayor of Arakawa Ward
Mr Taichiro Nishikawa

The Mayor of Shinjuku Ward
Mr Hiroko Nakayama

The Mayor of Taito Ward
Mr Hiroshi Yoshizumi

The Mayor of Bunkyo Ward
Mr Hironobu Narisawa

The Mayor of Toshima Ward
Nobuo Takano

Our Ref.:GA/GJ/31

Paris, 24 May 2012

Dear Sirs,

ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Sites - a unique, non-governmental, democratic, not-for-profit international organisation, committed to furthering the conservation, protection, use and enhancement of the world's cultural heritage - held its 17th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in Paris, at UNESCO headquarters from 28 November to 1 December 2011.

During this event, which gathered over 1000 cultural heritage professionals from across the world, a special resolution n° 21 "Vista of Mount Fuji" was unanimously approved and adopted (see the full resolution below). This resolution expresses serious international concern on the fate of this international emblem of Japan, whose last remaining important viewing-point, called Fujimizaka (*Mount Fuji-viewing slope*) in Tokyo risks being blocked by an on-going high-rise development project in Shinjuku, Tokyo.

ICOMOS urges you as the developer and the responsible authorities in Tokyo to re-evaluate the development in view of the importance of maintaining the vista of Mount Fuji. ICOMOS and ICOMOS Japan are at your full disposal to assist you with this re-evaluation and in developing guidelines to protect the last remaining vistas of Mount Fuji.

Yours sincerely



Gustavo Araoz
President

cc ICOMOS Japan

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Resolution 17GA 2011/21 - Vista of Mount Fuji

The 17th General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Considering the importance of safeguarding historic urban landscapes and their heritage vistas as part of necessary support in the interpretation of urban heritage;

Recalling that the 36th UNESCO General Conference recently adopted the Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscapes;

Noting that an on-going high-rise development project (a 45 storey building for residential use measuring approximately 160 metres in height) in Shinjuku, Tokyo, is likely to block the crucial vista of Mount Fuji from one of the few remaining important viewing-points, called Fujimizaka (*Mount Fuji-viewing slope*) in Tokyo;

Requests that the President of ICOMOS, in cooperation with ICOMOS Japan and the International Scientific Committees concerned, contacts the developer and the requisite responsible authorities in Tokyo to assist in re-evaluating the development in view of the importance of maintaining the vista of Mount Fuji and to support the development of guidelines to protect the last remaining vistas of Mount Fuji;

Also requests the ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees to engage in awareness raising campaigns to protect heritage vistas and key views in heritage settings in line with the recent UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscapes.

Letter sent to:

President of Sumitomo Realty & Development Co. Ltd
Ken-ichi Onodera
2-4-1, Nishishinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 163-0820 Japan

Governor of Tokyo
Sintaro Ishihara
2-8-1, Nishishinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 163-8001 Japan

Mayor of Arakawa Ward
Taichiro Nishikawa
2-2-3, Karakawa, Karakawa-ku, Tokyo, 116-8501 Japan

Mayor of Shinjuku Ward
Hiroko Nakayama
1-4-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 160-8484 Japan

Mayor of Taito Ward
Hiroshi Yoshizumi
4-5-6, Higashiueno, Taito-ku, Tokyo, 110-8615 Japan

Mayor of Bunkyo Ward
Hironobu Narisawa
1-16-21, Kasuga, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 112-8555 Japan

Mayor of Toshima Ward
Nobuo Takano
1-18-1, Higashiikebukuro, Toshima-ku, 170-8422 Japan