

News from the Nordic Pavilion at EXPO 2005, Aichi Japan  
September 13, 2005

### **Iceland's Minister for Foreign Affairs visits Nordic Pavilion, EXPO 2005**

Yesterday (Sept 12), the Nordic Pavilion received a visit by the Icelandic Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. David Oddsson. The Minister was accompanied by his wife, Ms. Astridur Thorarensen, Ambassador Thordur Aegir Oskarsson and a large Icelandic business delegation.

After getting a thorough guided tour of the Nordic Pavilion, the Minister visited the pavilions of Japan, Hitachi and Korea. During his visit to the Japan Pavilion, Minister Oddsson used the opportunity to congratulate EXPO representatives on the success of EXPO 2005 in Aichi.

The EXPO visit of Minister Oddsson, coincided with the visit of three Icelandic artists, who are participating in the Nordic Pavilion's Cultural Program. The artists, designer Tinna Gunnarsdottir, tenor Gissur Pall Gissurarson and pianist Holmfridur Sigurdardottir, have all been very well received by EXPO visitors. Earlier this month the popular Icelandic jazz band, Guitar Islancio also played a series of concerts at EXPO.

The EXPO visit is a part of a four-day visit to Japan, which ends with a large business seminar in Tokyo tomorrow. During his visit, Minister Oddsson will also meet with the Japanese Foreign Minister and the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry. The overall aim of the visit is to strengthen the ties between Icelandic and Japanese trading partners as well as creating new business opportunities in both countries.

You can find more information about the Nordic Pavilion on our website,  
[www.nordicatexpo2005.org](http://www.nordicatexpo2005.org)