Press Release



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Republic of Sakha President Shtyrov Visits Japan:

Japan-Russia Joint Project to Excavate and Display Yukagir Mammoth Making Excellent Progress

The Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi, Japan, and the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Russian Federation, signed a Memorandum of Understanding on January 16, 2004, concerning the Yukagir Mammoth. Based on the Memorandum of Understanding, Association officials have been engaged in consultations with the Russian Federation and the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia). As a result of these talks, the Association, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) have reached further agreement that this project will be a joint Japan-Russia undertaking and that the Yukagir Mammoth will be displayed in the pavilion of the Association at EXPO 2005.

Additionally, during his time in Japan, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) President Vyacheslav Anatolievich Shtyrov met with Association Chairman Shoichiro Toyoda yesterday, and the two agreed on ideas to promote this project. Today the basic outline of a concrete action plan concerning the future of this project was put together. President Shtyrov also visited the EXPO 2005 venue.

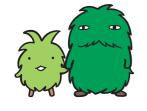
Through a presidential directive issued by President Shtyrov on May 22, an international scientific committee for this project was launched, and Professor Naoki Suzuki of the Jikei University School of Medicine was appointed to serve as vice chairman.

Through these steps, the project is expected to make excellent progress.

In early June a survey team will be sent to the area, where it will survey the excavation site and confirm the condition of the remaining parts of the specimen.

Attachments: Curriculum Vitae of President Shtyrov

Yukagir Mammoth Scientific Committee Photographs of the Yukagir Mammoth



Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition

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Curriculum Vitae

President of the Republic of Sakha Vyacheslav Anatolievich Shtyrov

Born: May 23, 1953, in the city of Khandyga, Yakutia (now the Republic of

Sakha)

Education:

1975 Graduates from Kuibyshev Far East Polytechnics Institute (Vladivostok)

with a degree in construction engineering

1991 Completes a graduate degree in economics at the Communist Party

Central Committee's Academy of Social Sciences

Work history

1986 Vice Chairman, Communist Party's Autonomous Region of Yakutsk

Construction Committee

August 1991 Minister of Construction and Investment, Sakha (Yakutia)

December 1991 Elected Vice President, Republic of Sakha

1992 Concurrently holds position of Prime Minister, Republic of Sakha

December 1994 Resigns as Prime Minister in accordance with adoption of the Republic

Government Law

January 1997 Term as Vice President comes to an end

December 1997 Elected as a member of State Assembly, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)

January 2002 Elected President, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)

Yukagir Mammoth Scientific Committee

Chairman: G. V. Tolstych, Minister of Science and Professional Education, Republic of

Sakha

Vice Chairman: Alexei. N. Tikhonov, Chairman, Russian Mammoth Committee Secretariat

(Animal Research Center, Russian Scientific Academy)

Vice Chairman: Naoki Suzuki, Chairman, EXPO 2005 Mammoth Excavation and Exhibition

Organizing Committee (Professor, Tokyo Jikei University School of

Medicine)

Members: 17 members

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