



## Preface

The 21<sup>st</sup> EAROPH World Congress and Mayors' Caucus was held in Himeji and Awaji Cities, Hyogo Prefecture from 21 to 24 October 2008. We collected academic papers based on the theme of the Congress from the broad area including Asia. The papers collected reached 71, leading the Congress fruitful.

The papers explore the main theme of the Congress "Succession and Sustainability of Urban Culture and Human Settlement" and the sub-themes of Himeji and Awaji "City Development by Sustaining Tradition and Culture" and "Building a Safe and Secure City Based on Disaster-Reduction Culture" respectively.

We have determined to record these valuable papers as the accomplishment of the Congress and to provide them in the form of CD proceedings for all over Asia. We hope this will help continuous development of the EAROPH area.

We collected 28 papers from overseas and 43 from Japan, and 71 were presented during the Congress. Among these, we granted permission from the authors to include 59 papers and 4 presentation materials, which are found in the CD.

March, 2009

Referee Board of The 21<sup>st</sup> EAROPH World Congress and Mayors' Caucus  
Executive Committee

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Research Center for Disaster Reduction Systems  
Disaster Prevention Research Institute Kyoto University  
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