



**Bureau  
International  
des Expositions**

**General Regulations of  
International Horticultural Expo 2027,  
Yokohama, Japan**

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## **PART I - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1 - Title, Theme and Category**

1.1. An international horticultural exhibition shall be held in the City of Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan.

The title of this exhibition shall be International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan (hereinafter referred to as “the Expo”).

The Expo was accredited on 9 September 2019 by the ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES PRODUCTEURS DE L'HORTICULTURE (hereinafter referred to as "the AIPH") as an A1 international horticultural exhibition and approved by the AIPH.

The Bureau International des Expositions (hereinafter referred to as “the BIE”) has recognised the Expo in accordance with the provisions of the Convention relating to International Exhibitions, signed at Paris on the 22nd of November 1928, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”).

1.2. The theme of the Expo will be “Scenery of the Future for Happiness”.

Humanity is part of the ecosystem and benefits from it. However, there is a limit to the capacity of the global environment that supports the continuation of ecosystems. As a result of the human socioeconomic pursuit of affluence, challenges that threaten the survival of humanity are becoming increasingly apparent, such as the loss of biodiversity, ongoing climate change, and the increasing severity and frequency of various natural disasters. As the world population is expected to continue to increase, especially in developing countries, there is a need to improve agricultural productivity to secure food.

Flowers, greenery, and agriculture excite people across different ideologies, generations, and national borders and bring about a sense of happiness. They nurture respect for nature in people’s minds and create value that is harmonious with nature.

In light of global climate change and biodiversity loss, the Expo aims to create a society in which people have a deeper sense of happiness through initiatives including:

- Re-evaluating the wisdom and culture that have been fostered around the world through relations with nature that utilize the diverse functions of the natural environment in daily life, and sharing ideas about how to use them to form a sustainable society.
- Promoting the cultures regarding horticulture worldwide.

- Exploring how to realize a life in which flowers, greenery, and agriculture are close at hand, and which nurtures a rich heart.
- Encouraging the participation of diverse entities.

We believe that the International Horticultural Exposition can play a role in proposing solutions to international issues including global environmental challenges and developing future societies. It will present new perspectives, values, and industrial fields, and help reaffirm the importance of natural spaces. It will emphasize the principle of circularity inherent in flowers, greenery, and agriculture, the value of nurturing plants of all types, how they benefit people at various levels, and the cultural and mental benefits to humankind. It will also ask participants to voice their opinions on the effects of nature on contemporary society, making the expo a participatory demonstration.

The theme embraces the wish of Yokohama, Japan, to create scenery that nurtures the hearts of its inhabitants. In such a society, pursuit of deeper feelings of happiness arises from coexistence with nature and bonds with other people. The result is a synergy, where each individual sows seeds of happiness in his/her own mind, fosters them through interactions with other people and the environment, and thus both individuals and the entire community bloom like a flower bed, full of vitality.

The following four sub-themes will be used to expand and realize the theme:

1) Co-adaptation

The sub-theme of co-adaptation will explore the development of sustainable, safe, and attractive urban areas through “Green infrastructure” which shall use diverse functions of the natural environment and complement grey infrastructure. It will emphasize using the wisdom of coexistence with nature, regeneration and recycling.

2) Co-existence

The sub-theme of co-existence will explore a Green Community in which people share with and support each other. By taking part in activities related to greenery and agriculture, people will realize that it is important for individuals to participate in the improvement of social and living infrastructures. It will emphasize learning from agrarian culture, which is appreciative of nature and makes use of it in daily life.

3) Co-creation

The sub-theme of Co-creation will explore the creation and development of new value-creating industries ahead of their time, through the introduction of

high-value-added floriculture and agriculture, new technologies and new varieties of flowers etc. It will also be welcomed to demonstrate how to expand the life sciences' industry through cross-industrial cooperation of, for example, medical sciences, sports and arts.

#### 4) Co-operation

The sub-theme of Co-operation will explore the development of a society that respects multicultural coexistence, friendship, peace, and diversity. It will emphasize cooperation among diverse actors, including domestic and foreign companies, educational and research institutions, citizens, and international networks. It will be expected to encourage the accumulation of the wisdom and technology that could lead to solutions to global issues, and the sharing thereof among people worldwide.

The definition of the theme of the Expo, as well as the details of its development will be specified in Special Regulation No. 1 as stipulated in Article 34 herein.

### **Article 2 - The Site**

The site of the Expo is located in north-western Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture, about 30 km southwest of Tokyo, covering an area of approximately 100 hectares, of which approximately 80 hectares shall be the enclosed area used for the exhibition and for other activities.

### **Article 3 - Duration**

The Expo shall open on Friday, 19 March 2027 and shall be closed definitely on Sunday, 26 September 2027.

In the event of one or more visiting days being organised before the official opening date, for special categories of guests such as press representatives, the dates for these shall be fixed with the agreement of the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners.

## **PART II - CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES IN THE ORGANISING STATE**

### **Article 4 - Government Authority Responsible for the Expo**

The Expo shall be under the authority of the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of the Government of Japan, a signatory government of the Convention who shall be responsible for preparing or undertaking the legal, financial, and other measures necessary to ensure the success and prestige of the Expo.

The Minister shall exercise his/her authority and his/her control over the Expo through the Commissioner of the Exhibition.

#### **Article 5 - The Commissioner of the Exhibition**

The Government of Japan shall appoint the Commissioner of the Exhibition.

The Commissioner of the Exhibition shall represent the government in all matters related to the Expo.

He/She shall be responsible for ensuring that the commitments taken vis-à-vis the BIE and the participants are duly honoured. He/She shall ensure that the programme of work is respected and that the general provisions of the General Regulations and Special Regulations are carried out. He/She shall exercise disciplinary powers over the Expo, and, in this capacity, he/she is authorised to suspend or stop any activity, and to effect at any time the withdrawal of items of whatever origin which are incompatible with the proper standing of the Expo, or which are likely to be a risk or liability. If the Organiser or the Commissioner of Section should contest the decision of the Commissioner of the Exhibition, the provisions set out in Article 10, which the parties have promised to respect, shall be applied. This appeal has the effect of putting the decision in abeyance except where a matter of security is in question.

The Commissioner of the Exhibition can, under his/her own responsibility, delegate the exercise of his/her powers to his/her personnel.

The Commissioner of the Exhibition may not carry out any function or mission on the Organiser's behalf, unless these functions, in law and in fact, are purely disinterested and non-profit making.

#### **Article 6 - Relationship between the Commissioner of the Exhibition and the Bureau International des Expositions**

The Commissioner of the Exhibition shall communicate to the BIE as soon as he/ she receives such information, the decisions taken by Governments or International organizations regarding their participation, and more particularly the documents wherein Governments or international organizations notify the Commissioner of their acceptance, the nomination of Commissioners of national sections (including sections of international organizations; The same shall apply hereinafter), exhibition spaces selected by participating countries or international organizations etc. and, as soon as they have been signed, the Participation Contracts.

The Commissioner of the Exhibition shall submit to the BIE, within the periods specified in Article 34, hereunder, the texts of the Special Regulations.



He/She shall keep the BIE fully informed, chiefly by reporting at each of its sessions, of all developments and progress relating to the preparation of the Expo.

He/She shall ensure that the use of the symbols of the Expos and of the BIE complies with the regulations laid down by the BIE. He/She shall welcome and assist the delegates sent by the BIE on official missions to the Expo.

The Commissioner of the Exhibition shall ensure that the Organiser indicates by all suitable means, and particularly by mentioning it on all documents, that the Expo has been recognised by the BIE in accordance with the regulations set down by the BIE.

The Commissioner of the Exhibition shall communicate to the BIE, in due time and for the information of the participants, the legislative, statutory or other texts adopted by the organising State and local public Authorities, in order to facilitate the participation of foreign States and ensure the success of the Expo.

#### **Article 7 - The College of Commissioners and the Steering Committee**

At the earliest possible opportunity, the Commissioner of the Exhibition shall convene a meeting of Commissioners of Section representing the participating countries to nominate a Chairperson and a Steering Committee to represent them, to consider matters of mutual interest, and to exercise the powers laid down in Article 10 herein.

When the number of States officially participating doubles after the elections, the elections shall be considered no longer valid, and new elections shall be held.

Should the Chairperson of the Steering Committee be prevented for any reason from fulfilling his/her responsibilities, he/she shall delegate his/her powers to another member of the Steering Committee.

The rules governing the functioning of the Steering Committee shall be set out in Special Regulation No. 3, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### **Article 8 - Exhibition Organiser**

In accordance with the Act on Special Measures Necessary for Preparing for and Managing the International Horticultural Exposition in 2027 and having regard to the authority of the Commissioner of the Exhibition, the preparation, organisation, operation and management of the Expo shall be the responsibility of the Japan Association for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama (hereinafter referred to as “the Organiser”).

The Commissioner of the Exhibition shall communicate to the BIE, for the information of the participants and the formal records of the BIE, the constitutional proceedings and composition of the bodies directing the Expo/the Organiser, as well as the basic terms

of the guarantees, benefits or constraints arising from the conventions signed by the State and, if the case arises, other public authorities.

### **PART III - OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS**

#### **Article 9 - Official Participants**

9.1. Official Participants are those foreign governments and international organisations that have accepted an official invitation from the Government of Japan to participate in the Expo. The governments of all participating countries in the Expo shall be represented by a Commissioner of Section accredited to the Government of Japan. Any participating international organisation shall also appoint a Commissioner of Section. Official Participants shall each conclude a Participation Contract with the Organiser to be signed by the Commissioner of Section and the Organiser and initialled by the Commissioner of the Exhibition.

The Commissioner of Section is solely responsible for the organisation and operation of his/her national section, which includes all the exhibitors and the managers of the commercial activities referred to in Chapter III of Part IV hereunder, but not the Concessionaires referred to in Part V. The Commissioner of Section shall guarantee that the members of his/her national section will abide by the regulations issued by the Organiser and approved by the BIE. In order to enable the Commissioner of Section to carry out his/her responsibilities, he/she shall be entitled to the advantages listed in Special Regulation No. 12, referred to in Article 34 herein. The personnel of Official Participants shall benefit from the accommodation facilities listed in Special Regulation No. 6, referred to in Article 34 herein.

9.2. All Official Participants shall abide by the same rules as regards both their rights and obligations. The Organiser shall not permit any exemptions to this Article, except for justified support granted to developing countries.

9.3. Information relating to the preferential treatment for developing countries will be detailed in Special Regulation No. 2 and relevant participation guidelines to be established by the Organiser with the cooperation of the BIE. These terms should be explicitly included in the Participation Contract submitted to the BIE for the Official Participants.

## **Article 10 - Settlement of Disputes**

Any disputes between an Official Participant and, either another Official Participant, or the Organiser, will be settled in the following manner:

- 10.1. If the dispute concerns the interpretation of the present General Regulations, the Special Regulations or the Participation Contract, considered in the light of the Convention or the compulsory rules of the BIE, the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners will be arbitrator after having, if the case arises, sought the opinion of the President of the BIE who, with the assistance of the Vice President(s) concerned and the Secretary General, will make a recommendation. The Commissioner of the Exhibition or the Organiser may also seek the above-mentioned opinion. This decision of the Steering Committee is immediately applicable and without recourse. During its next session the General Assembly of the BIE will make known whether it approves the interpretation of the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners, which will thus constitute a precedent applicable to similar future cases; otherwise, it will indicate the interpretation which should have been given.
- 10.2. If the dispute concerns products exhibited, the Steering Committee will inform the College of Commissioners, according to paragraph 3 of Article 19 of the Convention.
- 10.3. If the case must be resolved by the Commissioner of the Exhibition according to the provisions of these General Regulations, any party may demand that advice of the Steering Committee be sought beforehand.
- 10.4. For any other dispute each party can demand arbitration:
  - in the first instance, from the Commissioner of the Exhibition alone;
  - in the second instance, from the said Commissioner deciding after consultation with the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners;
  - in the third instance, from the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners.The decision will be made at the highest level requested by any/either of the parties.
- 10.5. The above-mentioned rulings must be made within ten days. Otherwise, the dispute - if it comes under points 1, 3 or 4 above - will be brought before the College of Commissioners, which will decide within five days. Otherwise, the request of the party which raised the dispute will be considered unjustified.

## **PART IV - GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION**

### **CHAPTER I - ADMISSION**

#### **Article 11 - Admission of Items and Exhibition Materials**

Only those items and exhibition materials which relate to the theme as described in Article 1 shall be admitted to the Expo.

The origin of these products shall be governed by the provisions of Article 19 of the Convention.

The procedure for compliance to the theme of the Expo shall be described in Special Regulation No. 1, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### **Article 12 - Admission of Exhibitors**

The exhibitors in national sections shall be selected by the Commissioner of Section and come under his/her sole authority. Exhibitors who do not come under any section (hereinafter referred to as "Non-Official Participants") shall deal directly with the Organiser and sign a contract with the Organiser. The Organiser shall inform the Government of the State of origin of the Non-Official Participant concerned of their intention as soon as contact is established with such Non-official Participants.

#### **Article 13 - Categories of Exhibition Spaces**

There shall be the following categories of exhibition spaces:

##### **13.1. Outdoor exhibition space (plot - land type; hereinafter referred to as "Type I")**

Participants shall construct their own gardens and/or pavilions for their own exhibitions on the plot provided by the Organiser. The plots shall be made available by the Organiser free of charge. The Organiser shall provide the exhibition areas with soil suitable for planting up to the level of the closest street or pathway.

The gardens that participants may construct and exhibit should follow the theme referred to in Article 1. The gardens of the Official Participants shall fully incorporate the cultural and landscape elements unique to each Official Participant. If participants construct their own pavilions, they shall showcase exhibitions in accordance with the theme referred to in Article 1 herein. Especially, exhibits in pavilions are required to be appropriate for an International Horticultural Exhibition.

The details of the conditions for participation are laid down by Special Regulation No. 2, referred to in Article 34 herein.

Participants shall, at their own expense, maintain their gardens, pavilions, exhibits, and all other items installed by participants in the exhibition space (including temperature control services for pavilions) during the Expo.

Upon dismantling, the exhibition space must be returned in the same condition it was in when it was first handed over to participants.

The details are laid down by Special Regulation No. 4, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### 13.2. Indoor exhibition shared facilities (hereinafter referred to as "Type II")

Participants shall use the exhibition space in pavilions built by the Organiser for their exhibition. Participants shall pay the Organiser for the use of the exhibition space. Type II indoor exhibition space shall be used for participants to introduce horticultural products and services developed from a variety of themes and exhibition configurations throughout the term of the Expo. Participants shall showcase indoor exhibitions in accordance with the theme referred to in Article 1 herein.

The details are laid down by Special Regulation No. 2, referred to in Article 34 herein.

Participants shall, at their own expense, maintain their own exhibits and all other items installed in the exhibition space by participants during the Expo.

The Organiser shall maintain the pavilions constructed by the Organiser (including temperature control services for pavilions) during the Expo. Participants shall maintain indoor exhibits in good condition and make efforts to maintain the quality of the exhibits. Participants shall remove promptly, at their own expense, exhibits which have become unsightly and no longer meet the exhibition criteria.

Participants are responsible for the dismantling of indoor exhibitions and must complete the dismantling as agreed and approved by the Organiser.

The details are laid down by Special Regulation No. 4, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### 13.3. Other Exhibitions

- National and Local Government Exhibitions: Gardens and pavilions planned by the Government of Japan and local governments.
- Organiser Exhibitions: Exhibition facilities planned by the Organiser. Designed to increase the appeal of the Expo theme and to inspire changes in visitors' awareness and behaviour through various experiences, the Organiser Exhibitions serve as the core of the Expo.

- **Organiser Garden:** The garden planned by the Organiser which serves as the symbol of the Expo.

## **CHAPTER II - SITES - INSTALLATIONS - CHARGES**

### **Article 14 - Allocation of Exhibition Spaces**

The total usable space which is placed at the disposition of the national sections shall be at least equal to the space allocated to the section of the organising State.

If, however, this space has not been fully allocated 24 months before the opening of the Expo, the Organiser shall recover the right to dispose freely of the unreserved space.

Confirmation of the allocation of space to Official Participants shall be subject to the approval of the proposed Theme Statement as specified in Special Regulation No. 1, referred to in Article 34 herein.

### **Article 15 - General Services**

15.1. The Organiser shall provide at the expense of each participant, the services of gas, electricity, telecommunications, water inlets and outlets, garbage removal, etc. Rates charged for such services shall conform to local rates. Participants shall carry out all the cleaning, maintenance (excluding common use areas of Type II pavilions), garbage removal, and other activities ordinarily required for the operation of their site. Should a participant fail to do so, the Organiser is authorised to carry out these activities itself and charge all expenses incurred therefrom to the participant.

15.2. The terms for the provision of general services shall be described in Special Regulations No. 4, 5 and 10, as referred to in Article 34 herein.

### **Article 16 - Construction**

No participant may erect a structure or make alterations within the exhibition grounds without the Organiser's prior approval of the project. Earthworks, landscaping and generally speaking all improvements around the buildings must also be approved in advance by the Organiser. Similarly, improvement plans drawn up by the Organiser may not be modified unless the participants concerned are in agreement, or permission has been granted by the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners.

The conditions for all construction, improvements and removal, including the conditions applied in accordance with the laws and regulations of Japan, shall be

set forth in Special Regulation No. 4, referred to in Article 34 herein. The special conditions which apply within the exhibition grounds, taking into account the temporary nature of the buildings to be erected and the improvements to be made, shall also be indicated herein.

Special Regulation No. 5, referred to in Article 34 herein, mentions the conditions for the installation and operation of any machines, apparatus or equipment which may be used by the participants, and includes the conditions applied in accordance with the laws and regulations of Japan.

#### **Article 17 - Occupation of the exhibition spaces**

- 17.1. Type I plots must be handed over to participants by 19 March 2026, and the construction, garden landscaping, and exhibit installation on these plots must be completed by 9 March 2027.
- 17.2. Type II exhibition spaces in shared facilities must be handed over to participants by 19 October 2026, and exhibit installation on these plots must be completed by 9 March 2027.
- 17.3. The plots allocated to participants for construction must be vacated and returned in their original conditions by 10 December 2027 at the latest. Exhibition spaces in pavilions built by the Organiser must be vacated and returned in their original conditions by 10 October 2027.

The details are laid down by Special Regulation No.2, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### **Article 18 - Exhibits**

- 18.1. No exhibit or part thereof may be removed from the Expo without the permission of the Commissioner of the Exhibition.
- 18.2. If a participant is unable to fulfil his/her commitments towards the Organiser, the Commissioner of the Exhibition may proceed at the closing date of the Expo and at the participant's cost and risk, with the dismantling, removal, storage, attachment and sale of the participant's goods located within the exhibition grounds, with the exclusion of items considered of national heritage and the amount due to the Organiser of the Expo shall be deducted from the proceeds of such sale.

## **CHAPTER III - COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Article 19 - General Provisions**

Official Participants may operate commercial and/or other activities in the national sections. Commercial or other activities carried out in the national sections must be authorised by the Commissioner of the Exhibition and the Organiser in accordance with the laws and regulations of Japan, the General Regulations, the Participation Contract and Special Regulation No. 9, referred to in Article 34 herein.

An Official Participant may avail itself of any special benefits obtained by another Official Participant.

Such activities, including those concerning electronic commerce, fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the appropriate Commissioner of Section. If these activities give rise to the payment of royalties, in accordance with the terms laid down in the Participation Contract, these royalties shall be collected by the Commissioner of Section.

The space devoted to commercial activities and accessible to the public must not exceed 20% of the total exhibition space in order to ensure that the national presentation complies with the provisions in paragraph 1 of Article 1 of the Convention.

### **Article 20 - Commercial Activities**

In accordance with the conditions set out in Special Regulation No. 9, referred to in Article 34 herein, Official Participants may open restaurants in which the national food of their country will principally be served.

In accordance with the conditions laid down in Special Regulation No. 9, referred to in Article 34 herein, subject to the Organiser's prior approval, Official Participants may sell one or more types of articles which are truly representative of their countries or organisations.

Subject to the Organiser's prior approval, such articles may be replaced with other articles during the course of the Expo. This principle also applies to electronic sales.

Items exhibited in the national sections, as well as materials used to install presentations, may be sold ready for delivery after the Expo closes; by so doing, the exhibitors shall relinquish their right to the benefit of temporary admission in respect of these items and materials and shall be subject to taxation and customs regulations. No dues shall be payable to the Organiser on such sales.

In the case where the Organiser has granted exclusive commercial rights to certain suppliers for the sale of goods or services, these rights must not be allowed to hinder the commercial activities of the Official Participants, whether these activities are



restaurants, or the sale of articles included in the national sections.

Concessions made by the Organiser should respect the principle of nondiscrimination between nationals and foreigners; avoid all risk of imbalance between the number and nature of concessions, and the eventual number of visits and all excesses of commercialisation leading to alterations in the objectives of an international exhibition, as established by the BIE.

#### **Article 21 - Catering Services for Own Personnel**

Any national section may organise a restaurant and refreshment services for the exclusive use of its own personnel. These activities shall not require the payment of any dues to the Commissioner of the Exhibition or to the Organiser. The areas for restaurants and refreshment services intended exclusively for own personnel prescribed in this article shall be unambiguously distinguished from the areas for commercial activities prescribed in the foregoing article.

#### **Article 22 - Distribution of Free Samples**

Subject to the approval of the Commissioner of the Exhibition, Commissioners of Section or exhibitors coming under their authority may distribute free samples of their products or allow them to be tasted free of charge, within their own section.

#### **Article 23 - Entertainment, Special Events**

Official Participants may arrange shows, special events, presentations, or meetings related to the theme of the Expo.

Conditions in each case shall be agreed mutually between the Commissioner of the Exhibition, the Organiser, and the Commissioner of Section.

No entrance fees may be charged for special events within the Expo site without the approval of the BIE.

Official Participants wishing to organise special events should notify the Organizer 90 days before the opening of the Expo.

The details are laid down by Special Regulation No. 9, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### **Article 24 - Publicity**

24.1. Participants may place signboards, posters, notices, printed matter and similar such material in indoor exhibition spaces or in their pavilions.

24.2. The use of any publicity material outside this indoor exhibition spaces or pavilion shall be subject to the prior approval of the Commissioner of the Exhibition. The

Commissioner of the Exhibition may require the removal of any such signs for which he/she has not given approval.

- 24.3. Brochures and leaflets can only be distributed within the enclosure of the section.
- 24.4. All publicity concerning special events etc. on the site must be authorised by the Commissioner of the Exhibition. All noisy advertising is prohibited.
- 24.5. The name, image, logo, marks, mascots, content, etc. of the Expo may not be used either inside, or outside the Expo site, without prior approval of the Organiser, whether for commercial purposes or not, be they in the form of boards, signs, printed publications, photos, drawings, electronic images, internet or any other form.
- 24.6. Commissioners of Section may use the symbols of the Expo solely for non-commercial purposes directly related to the Expo after having concluded the Participation Contract with the Organiser and receiving permission of the Commissioner of the Exhibition. This right of use is not transferable.

#### **CHAPTER IV - COMMON SERVICES**

##### **Article 25 - Customs Regulations**

Special Regulation No. 7 as set out in Article 34 herein, shall determine the appropriate customs regulations to be applied, where necessary, to goods and articles of foreign origin intended for the exhibition, in accordance with and by making reference to Article 16 of the Convention, its Annex concerning Customs regulations and the applicable Customs legislation.

##### **Article 26 - Handling, Customs Operations and Phytosanitary Provisions**

- 26.1. Exhibitors may carry out freely all handling and customs operations; however, the Organiser shall inform them of the names of those brokers whom he/she has approved as being competent for this purpose and over whom he/she exercises a control.
- 26.2. Each exhibitor must handle his/her own on-site acceptance of goods and the reshipment of crates as well as the checking of their contents. If exhibitors and their brokers are not present when the crates arrive within the exhibition grounds, the Commissioner of the Exhibition can have them warehoused at the expense, risk and perils of the interested party.
- 26.3. The Organiser shall bear the expense incurred by the exhibitors of the national sections for transportation between the port or airport designated by the

Organiser and the site of the exhibition.

- 26.4. Further details are laid down by Special Regulation No. 7, referred to in Article 34 herein.
- 26.5. The Organiser shall require information about the plants etc. and their packing materials to be imported, in order to ensure that the imported articles meet the requirements of the laws and regulations pertaining to plant quarantine in Japan and receive proper handling.
- 26.6. Exhibitors must provide the Organiser with information about the plants etc. and their packing materials to be imported, at least 30 days before packaging and shipment in their home country.
- 26.7. The details on plant quarantine are laid down by Special Regulation No. 7, referred to in Article 34 herein.

#### **Article 27 - Insurance**

27.1. Compulsory insurance required by the law

1) Workers' compensation:

Each Commissioner of Section must insure his/her personnel and the personnel of his/her exhibitors against accidents at work in accordance with the conditions laid down in Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein.

Non-Official Participants and Concessionaires must similarly insure against accidents at work in accordance with the conditions laid down in Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein.

2) Motor insurance:

In accordance with the laws and regulations of Japan, all vehicles belonging to a national section, its members, its employees, its exhibitors and, more generally, any person coming under the authority in any capacity of its Commissioner of Section must be insured against the damage they may cause to third parties under the conditions laid down by Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein.

All vehicles belonging to a Non-Official Participant or a Concessionaire must also be insured against the damage they may cause to third parties under the conditions laid down by Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein.

3) Health insurance:

Each Participant must ensure that his/her personnel has health insurance in accordance with the conditions laid down in Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein.

## 27.2. Compulsory insurance required by the General Regulations

### 1) Civil liability:

The Organiser shall underwrite and approve a group policy covering the risks involving his/her civil responsibility and listed in Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein. This insurance policy shall be taken out with the underwriter offering the most favourable terms. The costs incurred shall be determined on a pro-rata calculation of the area (square meters) occupied by each participant. All participants may choose whether to take out coverage under this group policy or to provide evidence that they have taken out a policy with another insurance company approved by the Organiser covering the same risks.

### 2) Insurance of properties:

A) Properties belonging to the government of the host State or the Organiser  
Subscription to any insurance against theft, deterioration or destruction of such properties (buildings, furnishings, equipment, plants, animals and other items), shall be the sole responsibility of the owner, and may not be passed on to a participant in the form of a surcharge on the rent payable, even if the participant uses these properties on a permanent or temporary basis.

#### B) Properties belonging to participants

Insurance of properties (buildings, furnishings, equipment, plants, animals, personal property and other such items) against the risks of theft, deterioration or destruction of these goods shall be the sole responsibility of the owner of these properties.

C) The Commissioner of the Exhibition, the Organiser, the Commissioners of Section, their exhibitors, and other participants mutually waive any claim which they may be entitled to make against each other as a result of material damage caused by fire or other casualty. Such a claim would not be waived in the case of foul play.

This waiver should take effect automatically for each participant as from the date his/her Participation Contract enters into force. All contracts relating to the insurance of buildings, furnishings, equipment, plants and animals and any other items belonging to the persons mentioned in the previous paragraph, whether they take the form of a contract of adhesion to a group policy or of a separate policy, must explicitly mention this waiver, which shall also be mentioned in the Participation Contract.

## 27.3. Other Insurance

The Organiser may provide assistance to participants who wish to take out

additional insurance against other risks.

27.4. Participants must submit copies of their insurance policies and terms and conditions, as well as proof of insurance premium payment to the Organiser.

27.5. Special Regulation No. 8, referred to in Article 34 herein shall clearly set out all conditions for insurance-related matters, in addition to those set out in this Article, and including applicable insurance obligations under the laws of Japan.

#### **Article 28 - Security**

In accordance with the conditions laid down in Special Regulation No. 10, referred to in Article 34 herein, the Organiser shall set up an overall security system to maintain peace and security, to deter violations of the law, and to enforce the regulations.

Commissioners of Section may, under the conditions laid down in the Special Regulation No. 10 mentioned above, organise special surveillance of their respective sections.

#### **Article 29 - Catalogue**

29.1. Each participant shall cooperate with the Organiser as regards all publication, production and communication for the promotion of the Expo. The contents of such material must have received the approval of the Commissioner of Section concerned.

29.2. The Commissioner of each section shall be entitled to have printed and published, at his/her own expense, an official catalogue of the items on display in his/her section.

#### **Article 30 - Admissions to the Site**

30.1. The conditions of admission are laid down by Special Regulation No. 13, referred to in Article 34 herein.

30.2. The Commissioner of the Exhibition (or the Organiser, with the agreement of the Commissioner of the Exhibition) shall determine the entrance fees for the Expo. No other entrance fee may be charged inside the Expo site, without the approval of the BIE.

30.3. Complimentary tickets, accreditation cards, or passes for Official Participants and Non-Official Participants, exhibitors, Concessionaires, their personnel and their vehicles shall be issued in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Special Regulation No. 13 mentioned above.

## **CHAPTER V - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### **Article 31 - General Regulations**

Special Regulation No. 11, referred to in Article 34 herein, on the protection of plant breeder's rights, patent rights and copyrights shall specify:

- The position of Japan with regard to:
  - Berne Convention of September 9th, 1886 on the Protection of Works of Art and Literature.
  - Geneva Convention of September 6th, 1952 on Author's Rights.
  - Paris Convention of March 20th, 1883 on the Protection of Industrial Property.
  - International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants adopted on 2 December 1961 and revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991.
- References of applicable laws in Japan.
- Special measures taken regarding the Expo.
- Measures for the protection of all patents as well as those for anti-counterfeiting.

Security personnel shall be instructed not to allow anyone to draw, copy, measure, photograph, cast etc. with a profit-making aim, items on display in the Expo without the written permission of the exhibitor.

### **Article 32 - Photographic or other views of the Expo**

The reproduction and sale of exterior images of individual exhibits, gardens and pavilions of Official Participants, and/or of all indoor images of exhibits of Official Participants, must be approved by the Commissioner of the section concerned.

However, the Organiser reserves the right to authorise the reproduction and sale of photographic or other images of the Expo.

Participants may not object to such reproduction or sale.

## **CHAPTER VI - AWARDS**

### **Article 33 - Awards**

The Organiser shall, in accordance with the BIE and AIPH regulations, arrange competitions and evaluations to award high-quality exhibitions. The details are laid down by Special Regulation No. 14, referred to in Article 34 herein.

## **CHAPTER VII - SPECIAL REGULATIONS**

### **Article 34 - List of Special Regulations and Time Schedules**

The host government shall submit to the BIE for approval, the drafts of the Special Regulations. These regulations shall, in particular, concern:

1. the definition of the theme of the Expo and the means of its implementation by the Organiser and the Participants;
2. the conditions for the participation of States, international organisations and private exhibitors;
3. the rules for the functioning of the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners;
4. the rules concerning construction or improvements, and fire protection;
5. the rules concerning the installation and operation of machines, apparatuses, and equipment of all types;
6. accommodation facilities for the personnel of the Official Participants;
7. the regulations governing customs, plant quarantine and handling, and any particular rates and charges;
8. insurance;
9. the conditions under which Official Participants may operate restaurants or carry out sales;
10. the provision of general services:
  - health and hygiene
  - security and surveillance
  - distribution of water, gas, electricity, heating, airconditioning, etc.
  - telecommunications
11. the protection of intellectual property rights;  
This regulation must specify that each Commissioner of Section shall have free nonlucrative use of the title, logo, and other attributes for the Expo.
12. the privileges and advantages of Commissioners of Section and of their staff;
13. the regulations governing admissions;
14. the conditions governing the attributing of awards.

The above Special Regulations shall be drafted in accordance with the time schedule agreed upon with the BIE and submitted to the BIE for approval.

All other directives which the Organiser may lay down for the requirements of the Expo shall come into force only after being examined by the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners.

Notwithstanding the time scale established for the approval of these Special Regulations, the Organiser shall make available early guidelines on costs or provisions necessary in assessing the financial implications of participation.

## **CHAPTER VIII -SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

### **Article 35**

Participants shall observe the BIE Convention and Regulations, the General Regulations and Special Regulations of the Expo and the AIPH regulations, the laws and regulations of Japan and the directives and guidelines established by the Organiser.

If one or more provisions of these General Regulations or the Special Regulations should be entirely or partially without legal force or impossible to implement, or should they later lose their legal effect or viability, this shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

## **PART V - SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR CONCESSIONAIRES**

### **Article 36**

“Concessionaires” in the sense of these General Regulations are those who have been granted by the Organiser rights to conduct commercial activities within the Expo site.

Concessionaires shall conclude a Concessionaire Contract with the Organiser that covers the conditions for the commercial activities to be conducted within the Expo site.

The above provisions also apply to Concessionaires with the exception of those which only concern Official Participants and/or Non-Official Participants and which are the following:

- Articles 6, 7, 9 and 10;
- Chapter I of Part IV;
- Article 14;
- Chapter III of Part IV, with the exception of Article 24;
- Chapters IV, with the exception of Article 27, 29, 30 and VI of Part IV;
- the Special Regulations referred to in Article 34 under the numbers 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 14.

The other conditions for participation shall be laid down in the Participation Contract. They shall comply with the provisions of Articles 17, 18 and 19 of the Convention.



**Article 37**

Natural or legal persons whose countries are officially participating in the Expo shall only be admitted as Concessionaires subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Section of their country of origin, who may establish special conditions for their admission.