

## 第29回万国地質学会議 (IGC)



1. IGC 執行委員と歓談される皇太子殿下

1992年8月24日から9月3日まで国立京都国際会館で第29回万国地質学会議(IGC)が開催された。

開会式には名誉総裁の皇太子殿下のご臨席を仰ぎ、渡部恒三通商産業大臣をはじめとする多くの来賓のご出席のもとに開かれた。

本会議のテーマは“地球の起源から人類の生存へ”であり、3テーマの特別シンポジウム、境界領域のシンポジウムⅠ、各地球科学分野のシンポジウムⅡが開かれ、その総数は238セッションに及んだ。また、52コースの野外巡検が日本全域と一部韓国とフィリピンで行われた。



2. 科学展示場をご覧になる皇太子殿下。左に渡部通産大臣、右に案内の石原工業技術院長



## 皇太子殿下の開会宣言

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen :

It gives me great pleasure to say a few words of welcome at the opening ceremony of the 29th International Geological Congress. I am very pleased to meet the representatives of the International Union of Geological Sciences, National Delegates and geoscientists of the world.

The first session of this IGC was held in 1878. It is very significant that the congress with its long history and tradition of over a century will be held at our old capital city of Kyoto. I wish to extend my sincere welcome to all the participants and to pay tribute to all those whose painstaking efforts made this meeting possible.

From ancient times, by furthering the knowledge of the earth and the universe, the earth sciences, not only fulfilled the man's dreams and aspirations, but also in many ways contributed greatly to the development of the society of mankind. Just to mention only a few examples, they are the development of

energy and mineral resources, the prevention against natural disasters and the conservation of the environment of the earth.

Today, there is a large variety of problems related to global environment. We are facing a tremendous challenge regarding our understanding of the earth. Also, in the years to come, the interaction between mankind and the earth will have to be carefully scrutinized. Thus, geosciences will undoubtedly play increasingly important roles. Great expectations will rest with you, who are gathered here today.

Therefore, it is most timely indeed that all of you concerned with geosciences should be present here, at this time, for an international exchange of ideas and cooperation in this very important field.

I am confident that your deliberations during the next ten days will be most fruitful and will benefit all mankind on this planet. I hereby declare the 29th International Geological Congress open.