THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, OSAKA

Ħ

10-6 SENRI BAMPAKU-KOEN, SUITA, OSAKA, 565-0826, JAPAN Tel:+81--6-6876-8800 Fax:+81--6-6876-8686

November 26th, 2009

Dear Supporter of the IICLO,

Thank you very much for your continued warm support for the IICLO. We would like to report on the present situation and the future direction of the institute.

With great support from all over the world we have continued to examine every possibility for the continuation of the IICLO, even after an ordinance of closure of the institute had been passed at the Prefectural Assembly in March, 2009. However, we could not find any effective solution, so a board meeting was held on the 2nd November at which the future direction of the IICLO was discussed.

We came to the conclusion that the Foundation could not avoid accepting the proposal which the Osaka prefectural government made at "the Governor's Strategic Meeting" on 19th of August, 2009. Because of the considerable support we have enjoyed in our fight to avoid closure it is to our particular regret that we have had to make this announcement.

The proposal is as follows; The International Institute for Children's Literature in Osaka prefecture will be closed by the end of March, 2010 and all the materials of IICLO will be transferred to the Osaka Central Library. After a three year taking-over period, all the works will be handled by the librarians at the Central Library.

We also came to the conclusion that two researchers from the IICLO (one full time and one part time) should work at the Central Library for three years as proposed in order to keep the valuable materials in full use. We also decided that we would maintain the Foundation without any support from the prefectural government although it will be much smaller than the present one, that it will be based at the Central Library and that it will continue to maintain some of its program of activities related to children's literature.

The IICLO at the Expo 70's Commemoration Park will be closed on the 27th of December 2009. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you once more for all your support during this past year. Although we have many difficulties in front of us, we, the Foundation will do its best to contribute to the field of children's literature and culture. We humbly ask that you continue to give us your support.

Sincerely yours,

MATSUI, Tadashi

President, IICLO