

## INVITATION AND AIMS

The Organizing Committee cordially invites you to the **2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium of IGCP608** “*Cretaceous ecosystems and their responses to paleoenvironmental changes in Asia and the Western Pacific*” to be held in Tokyo, Japan on **4-10 September 2014**.

The IGCP Project 608 kicked off last year with the successful meeting of the First International Symposium at Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, India. The IGCP608’s aim is to delineate the Cretaceous ecosystems and how they responded to the paleo-environmental changes during the Cretaceous time that affected the South-East Asian and adjacent Western Pacific region. We will depict how the types of ecosystems that were established during the Cretaceous evolved in Asia and the Western Pacific. Doing so, we will try to ascertain links between global and local environmental changes in both marine and terrestrial ecosystems. This project comprises two groups of major topics: 1) Variations of Cretaceous terrestrial and marine environments, and 2) Evolution of Cretaceous terrestrial and marine ecosystems in Asia and the Western Pacific.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium of the IGCP608 in Tokyo will hold the following topic sessions with respect to 1) OAE (oceanic anoxic event) phenomena, 2) Land-ocean linkages, 3) Tectonic evolution and paleoenvironments, 4) Biotic evolution from Asian and Western Pacific records, and 5) Asian geoparks highlighting Cretaceous. These will be based on the multitude of the adequate information gathered from terrestrial and marine strata in Asia and Western Pacific and others.

As a post-symposium field excursion we will visit the forearc siliciclastic successions exposed along the Pacific coast and nearby, central Japan, 100-250 km east to northeast from Tokyo. We can observe fluvial to offshore turbidite facies through storm-dominated shallow-marine facies occasionally associated with several sedimentary structures and such fossil sites as vertebrate bone beds and bivalves/ammonite shell beds, including excellent geoscience-based museums and some geosites of Japanese Geoparks, “Choshi” and “North Ibaraki”.