

Docomomo International discussing the Future of the Museum of Modern Art Kamakura by Junzo Sakakura

docomomo Chair Ana Tostões had stayed in Tokyo from 20th to 23rd February 2014 on the way to attend the scientific committee for the 13th **docomomo** International Conference, in Seoul. There were three missions for her visit.

First of all, she met the Kanagawa Prefecture representatives of Culture and Education in order to confirm the conservation and reuse of the Museum of Modern Art Kamakura (1951, MoMA Kamakura) designed by Junzo Sakakura (1901–1969) — See **docomomo** Journal, 49 (2013/2) —, adding to it the discussion with the director of the MoMA Kamakura, Tsutomu Mizusawa, on the future of the museum.

Kanagawa Prefecture representatives understood the revaluation of the MoMA Kamakura as a master piece of modern architecture in Japan, however, they did not declare to conserve it but they promised to decide some kind of directions including any possibility of conservation and maintaining this masterpiece by the end of 2014.

Ana appreciated their understanding of the **docomomo**'s missions; furthermore, she reconfirmed to promote any continuous investigation of its historical outstanding values as modern masterpiece.

After the discussion, she moved to Kamakura to visit the site and to meet its director, Mr. Mizusawa. Before the meeting, she looked around the Museum to take photos like a child. Because this building is one of her favorites (which she used as the image of hers Christmas and New Year Card 2012). Their discussion about not only the museum but also about artists and art history reflect upon their intellectual sympathy toward the Modern Movement in art and architecture, developing the issue of living heritage and the new museum in Seoul as the venue of the 2014 Docomomo International Conference. Secondly, she visited the architectural office of the Japanese prestigious modern architect, Fumihiko Maki (1928–), to show her gratitude for his acceptance to be present at the 13th **docomomo** International Conference as

a Keynote Speaker. Mr. Maki has shown his understanding of docomomo activities for long time, especially because of his appreciation of the modernity of Kameki Tsuchiura (1897–1996) house as his decision to become architect in his childhood.

Thirdly, she visited the Exhibition *Une Architecture Pour L'homme: Junzo Sakakura in Architectural Documents at the National Archives of Modern Architecture*, Agency for Cultural Affairs as a first architectural archive in Japan, and she had a seminar lecture on the *Re-Use Modern Heritage* for the **docomomo** Japan members, at the Conference Room of the Tokyo Metropolitan Festival Hall (1961) in Ueno, designed by Kunio Maekawa (1905–1986), which is on the **docomomo** Japan's registration list.

Her lecture showed us the case-study of the Headquarters and Museum of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon of which especially she had committed to its conservation and renovation work in explaining the scientific data and definition of conservation of modern architecture. Furthermore, her work compiled documentations of the buildings and architects, that is to say, one of the ideal actions for **docomomo**, suggesting us to the future of the MoMA Kamakura. ■

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docomomo Japan Coordinator

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01 Meeting with the Kanagawa Prefecture.



02 **docomomo** International Chair at the MoMa Kamakura, Mr. Mizusawa.



03 Meeting with Professor Fumihiko Maki.



04 Exhibition *Une Architecture Pour L'homme: Junzo Sakakura in Architectural Documents*, National Archives of Modern Architecture, Agency for Cultural Affairs.



05 Seminar lecture on the *Re-Use Modern Heritage* by **docomomo** International Chair, Tokyo Metropolitan Festival Hall.