## International Archives Day

The International Council on Archives (ICA) is an international non-government organization founded on 9 June 1948 with support from UNESCO in order to strengthen cooperation among archival institutions around the world and to develop their activities for preserving archival records and ensuring their availability for use. To celebrate the foundation day, the ICA decided 9 June as the annual International Archives Day to disseminate its activities and significant roles of archives in 2008. This year marks the third year to celebrate this Day.

Preserving records and archives is essential not only for states and local public entities but also for corporations and organizations. We hope this day will serve as a good opportunity for each body to recall the importance of preserving various records and archives that they have created and acquired, and making them available to the public.

In 2008 we held the Commemorative Lecture at the 1st Japan Conference in celebration of International Archives Day in Tokyo. We also adopted the appeal of the Conference. This year we will organize the 3nd Commemorative Lecture on the International Archives Day in Tokyo.

[Reference] What is "Archives"?

The term Archives refers to the following three meanings.

- Materials selected for permanent preservation from paper records as well as audiovisual materials and electronic records, which were created, accepted and accumulated in the course of activities conducted by individuals or organizations, due to the importance for organization management or academic research and to the diverse values including cultural heritage.
- An institution in which archival records are preserved, arranged, and made available to the public.
- Actions to preserve, arrange archival records, and make them available to the public.

