

Dear Wikimania 2013 jury,

I am pleased to support the Wikimedia Hong Kong bid to host the Wikimania convention in August 2013.

The co-host for the bid is the Internet Society Hong Kong Chapter, who have in the last couple of years demonstrated the ability to host successful regional and international events, including the Internet Society's Regional INET in 2010 and APRICOT in 2011.

I am aware of the work done by Wikimedia Hong Kong to promote Wiki-based projects in Hong Kong, and this convention will be a good opportunity to promote not only Hong Kong as a hub for promoting information collaboration and sharing, but the Asia-Pacific region as well – the world's most diverse region. As you would be well aware, the Asia-Pacific region also has the largest number of Internet users in the world, and I believe hosting the Wikimania convention in Hong Kong would bring tremendous benefits to the Wiki community at large.

Hong Kong's credentials as an international conference destination is well-acknowledged, as is its generally easy and flexible visitor visa facilities (most nationalities receive a visa on arrival, which should be an important consideration for any international event). Both these facts in themselves should rank them highly as the preferred location for Wikimania.

I understand that the Wikimedia Foundation considers the geographical neutrality of the conference as one criteria, however East Asia has not had held the Wikimania conference since 2007 in Taipei. I should also add that Hong Kong is referred to as “Asia's World City”, offering a cosmopolitan experience that I am certain delegates will enjoy.

I would be happy to assist with any further queries you may have on my endorsement above.

I look forward to Wikimania being held in Hong Kong in 2013, and attending what is certain to be a great event.

Sincerely,



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