

# Warren Horton in Japan and the Philippines



Warren Horton, Director-General and Jan Fullerton, Director, General Collections and Services, in discussion with senior staff of National Diet Library in Tokyo.

Warren Horton writes: 'Following the Australian Libraries Delegation to China on which John Levett reported in inCite 9, Jan Fullerton and I then visited the National Diet Library in Japan. This was for a first exploratory discussion about the possibility of a more coordinated document delivery service to the Asia/Pacific region from the National Diet Library, the NLA and the National Library of New Zealand. Such a development was discussed in detail in the recent NLA major Document Delivery/Warehousing

Options Consultancy, the report of which has not yet been released to the Australian library community. The result of this initial discussion was most encouraging, and senior NLA staff will be meeting Peter Scott, National Librarian of New Zealand and his senior colleagues in Auckland in September to also discuss the matter.

'I then went on a private visit for 3 days to the Philippines, to stay with Jenny Adams (Hole), the Association's Executive Director from 1984-87, who moved to Manila a year ago with her family. Jenny, I

and the Australian Cultural Attache from our Embassy paid a courtesy call on the National Library of the Philippines on 23 May, to be greeted with the startling news that they had been told that morning that the building had to be completely evacuated for some months while major structural damage from the recent earthquake is repaired. Obtaining funds and alternative accommodation for the staff and stock will be a major problem for Narcissa V Munasque, the National Librarian, and her senior colleagues. This news really brought home the difficulties under which libraries operate in many Asian and Pacific countries.'

*Warren Horton*  
Director-General  
National Library of Australia

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