

Table 5

International Events in Hokkaido — 1991

Event	Month	Number of Participants	Location
42nd Sapporo Snow Festival	February		Odori Koen, Sapporo
Sapporo International Ski Marathon	February	5 000	Sapporo
62nd International Miyasama Ski Games	February	10 000	Sapporo
Winter Universiade '91 Sapporo	February		Sapporo
11th International Vasa Skiing Competition	March	11 000	Asahikawa
9 FIS Jump World Cup	December	15 000	Sapporo

Another promotional tool is the growing number of trade fairs and international events hosted by Hokkaido. Table 4 describes trade fairs held in Sapporo, while Table 5 outlines other international events held on the island.

Major Projects

In November 1987, the Hokkaido government announced a 10-year development plan which aims to improve internal and international communication, establish a high-technology industrial base and utilize Hokkaido's natural resources more fully.

Projects covered by the 10-year plan include the following:

Hokkaido Aerospace Center: Plans call for establishment of a space centre in Tokachi with related R & D and manufacturing facilities. The complex will include a flight control centre with launching capability, a runway for space shuttles, a training centre, and other facilities to meet the future needs of space stations. Also planned are an international aerospace university, research institutes for life sciences, and facilities for space-related industries, pharmaceuticals, semiconductors, glass, new materials, and biotechnology.

Regional Agriculture Industries Complex: This complex is intended to enhance the island's agricultural industry and to assist in developing related industries such as biotechnology. (Biotechnology is expected to be the driving force in transforming Hokkaido's agricultural and fisheries industries.)

Ocean Development Base: Aimed at developing the island's marine resources — including aquaculture, recreation, biotechnology, and marine energy — this initiative provides plans for large-scale fish farming, enhancement of marine and shipbuilding technologies and resort development. Among target areas are Nemuro, Kushiro and southern parts of the island.

International Resort Development: This programme calls for development of convention centres, urban resorts, health spas and clinics, sports and cultural resorts, country resorts, and outdoor activity resorts. These facilities will be located near six regional centres — Hakodate, Sapporo, Asahikawa, Kitami/Abashiri, Obihiro, and Kushiro.

Commuter Air Service: Under this initiative, Hokkaido's 13 airports are to be upgraded and 10 additional commuter airfields and heliports constructed.

Technological Advancement Network: Plans call for establishment of a think-tank to promote regional industrial development.