

## **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXCURSION – WEDNESDAY, 19 OCTOBER**

### **The Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses Museum of Emperor Qin Shihuang**

No doubt thousands of statues still remain to be unearthed at this archaeological site, which was not discovered until 1974. Qin (d. 210 B.C.), the first unifier of China, is buried, surrounded by the famous terracotta warriors, at the centre of a complex designed to mirror the urban plan of the capital, Xianyan. Three pits have been excavated so far. Occupying an area of over 200,000 square meters, the pits are arranged in a triangular shape. The almost 8000 life size figures that have so far been excavated are all different; with their chariots and bronze weapons, they are masterpieces of realism and also of great historical interest. The terracotta warriors, whose status can be identified from their respective costumes and positioning, are about 1.8 meters high. Considered by some as the “Eighth Wonder of the World”, the excavated objects are precious materials for the study of the military tradition, politics, economy, culture, science and arts of the 2,000-year-old Qin Dynasty. Delegates will visit the on-site museum located around 1.5 kilometers east of Emperor Qin Shi Huang's Mausoleum in Lintong County.

### **The Yangling Mausoleum of the Han Dynasty**

The Yangling mausoleum was built for the fourth emperor of the Han Dynasty named Han Jindi Liuqi and his empress. It is situated 20km north of Xi'an on the Xianyang plateau next to the River Wei, with at its south the Han dynasty capital - Chang'an. It is one of the major on-site museums in Shaanxi province. The complex forms an irregular rectangle shape and covers an area of 20 square km. It includes the following remains: the mound of the emperor and the mound the empress, accompanied by burial pits to the north and south; the ruins of ceremonial buildings, the tombs of prisoners, a series of satellite mounds, the remains of the outer city of Han Yangyi, to name but a few. The emperor's mound dominates the whole area and together with the complex layout of the various burial zones reflects the strict rank conception of the dynasty. The main areas open to the public are: the stone compass, the ruins of the southern watchtower's gate, and the display room showing excavated artefacts.