

Address by the Organizer at the Opening Ceremony
at the 16th International Congress of the World Federation of Occupational
Therapists in collaboration with the 48th Japanese Occupational Therapy
Congress and Expo

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President of Science Council of Japan

Tuesday, June 17, 2014
National Convention Hall, PACIFICO Yokohama

Your Majesties, The Emperor and The Empress,
Mr. Ichita Yamamoto, Minister for Science and Technology Policy,
Mr. Yuuji Kuroiwa, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture,
Ms. Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of the City of Yokohama,
Mr. Haruki Nakamura, Convener, WFOT Congress 2014,
Professor E. Sharon Brintnell, President, WFOT,
Professor Hiroshi Yamane, Co-convener and Chair, WFOT Congress 2014,
Ms. Marilyn Pattison, Co-convener, WFOT Congress 2014,
Professor Jyunnichi Shimizu, Chair of the social exchange and Hospitality,
WFOT Congress 2014
Distinguished Guests, Fellow Researchers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed my great honor to deliver an address as a co-organizer at the opening ceremony of the 16th International Congress of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists in collaboration with the 48th Japanese Occupational Therapy Congress and Expo in the presence of Their Majesties, The Emperor and The Empress.

Science Council of Japan is a representative institution of Japan's scientific communities in all kinds, from Humanities to Engineering, including Life Sciences. Our primary purpose is to develop and advance scientific outcomes to ensure that the science is reflected in and infiltrates policy making, industry, and people's lives.

Since its establishment in 1949, with a view of promoting international exchange in science, we have deepened our ties with research institutions

worldwide by hosting international conferences in Japan and dispatching researchers to conferences held abroad.

We are very pleased to host this international congress and welcome participants from over 70 countries and regions.

I am especially looking forward to hearing the many splendid scientific results under the congress theme of "Sharing Traditions, Creating Futures". I hope that there will be intense discussions among occupational therapists crossing national and regional boundaries on significant research topics, future perspective, and international collaborations.

I am also delighted as a co-organizer that this congress will be an occasion to share the meaning and importance of occupational therapy with the society through the general public forum.

Before closing my welcome address, I would like to express my wish for the great success of this congress. In addition, I hope that you have an enjoyable and memorable stay in Yokohama, hopefully deepening a better understanding of Japanese culture.

Thank you for your attention.