

**Joint Host Organization Address  
by the Representative of Science Council of Japan  
on the occasion of the Opening Ceremony  
of the 16th International Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Meeting**

Professor Susumu Higuchi, President, ISAM 2014  
Professor Hannu Alho, President, ISAM,  
Distinguished Guests, Fellow Researchers,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me, as the representative of Science Council of Japan, to have this opportunity to welcome all of you at the opening ceremony of the 16th International Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Meeting.

Science Council of Japan is an organization representing a broad range of scientific community in Japan in the fields of humanities, social sciences, life sciences, physical sciences and engineering. Our main purpose is to fulfill social responsibilities of the Japanese scientists' community through development of science.

Since its establishment in 1949, Science Council of Japan has constantly promoted international exchange in the field of science through enhancing its cooperation with academic organizations around the world. To this end, we have hosted international conferences in Japan, and sent researchers to conferences held abroad.

By co-hosting this Annual Meeting with the Japanese Society of Alcohol-Related Problems and the National Hospital Organization Kurihama Medical and Addiction Center, I am especially delighted to have this opportunity to welcome the leading scientists in the field of substance dependence on illegal drugs or alcohol and the field of behavior addiction such as gambling or the Internet, throughout the globe here at Pacifico Yokohama. And also, I am delighted to see that the lectures and reports by those scientists will lead to the exchange of important information and the contribution to the development of scholarship in these domains.

I have heard that this is the first time that this Annual Meeting is

held in Japan. Through this gathering of the top scientists in the world, who will present and discuss the latest research achievements in this field, our aim is to endeavor to promote the advancement of the International Society of Addiction Medicine and the development of practical application.

Science Council of Japan, as the host of this Conference, has high expectations for the 16th International Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Meeting to provide an opportune momentum for advancement in the domains of both basic sciences and clinical research in addiction medicine, through the achievements in research conducted both in Japan and abroad.

During this Annual Meeting, we have prepared various social events for you, such as a Get Together and a traditional Noh performance. I hope that all of the participants will gain a better understanding of Japanese culture as well as reap the fruits of research through this meeting.

I would like to conclude by expressing my sincere hope that the 16th International Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Meeting will generate significant achievements from the academic point of view. In addition, I wish that all participants will be able to deepen your friendships with fellow participants from Japan and overseas during the course of the meeting. Since you come to Japan in the best season of the year luckily, I hope that all of you will have an enjoyable and memorable stay in Japan.

Thank you and welcome.

Takashi Onishi  
President  
Science Council of Japan