

G-Science Academies Meeting 2016  
President Onishi's Opening Address  
President Takashi Onishi

Thursday, February 18, 2016  
Mita Kaigisho

Your Excellency Ms. Aiko Shimajiri, Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy of Japan,  
and  
Fellow scientists.

I would like to welcome all the participants from various countries and region. Science Council of Japan is very pleased to host the G-Science Academies Meeting 2016. As a representative of Science Council of Japan, I would like to open the event with a few words.

This time we have taken up the three themes of "Brain and Mental Health" and "Disaster Risk Reduction", in which global interest is rapidly increasing, and also "Scientist Development" including young researchers who will lead our future. In addition, we will have a follow-up session to confirm the results of 2015 Statement we had in Berlin last year. I hope that we will have informative discussions through all these sessions as to how we should use science and technology for our society.

In recent years, scientists are expected to play gradually more important roles, and I believe one of our most important missions is to provide policy advice, which has solid scientific foundation and holistic foresight.

This year, "Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting in Tsukuba, Ibaraki" and "G7 2016 Ise-Shima Summit" will also be held in Japan, and that is the reason why we gather together in Japan now. It is my great honor to have G-Science Academies Meeting 2016 and discuss the three themes with you.

I hope that your time in Japan will be fruitful and that our two-day discussion will be productive.

This morning, we are honored by the attendance of Ms. Aiko Shimajiri, Minister for Science and Technology Policy of Japan. I hereby conclude my opening remarks and would like to introduce Minister Shimajiri.

Minister Shimajiri, could you say a few words, please?