

G-Science Academies Meeting 2016 Reception
President Onishi's Address

Thursday, February 18, 2016
Mita Kaigisho

Your Excellency Ms. Aiko Shimajiri, Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy of Japan,
Your Excellencies the Ambassadors,
Fellow Scientists and Distinguished Guests,

I would like to welcome you all for the reception of the G-Science Academies Meeting 2016. I would like to say a few words on behalf of Science Council of Japan, the organizer of this event.

Here, in the place of Mita Kaigisho which is now used as a government conference facility, there used to be a wooden house constructed for Mr. Eiichi Shibusawa. The original house was moved to Aomori Prefecture to be rebuilt there. Shibusawa was a famous entrepreneur and a trailblazer of Japan's modernization, and was the founder of Business Community of Japan. You may enjoy discussion in a historic atmosphere of Modernization of Japan.

I was really impressed with today's lively discussion in the Meeting which I think developed further the 2nd drafts to the final one appropriate to be handed to the world's political leaders.

Our Meeting will continue until tomorrow. Through further re-drafting afterward, we will create the academies' Joint Statements finally. There is nothing more important for us than using science and technology to help contribute further to the benefit of humankind.

The Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting is scheduled to be held in the middle of May, and the G7 Summit will follow at Ise-Shima in the same month. Our Meeting of the G7 Academies of Science would like to collaborate with the Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting.

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

Minister Shimajiri, let me have a privilege to introduce you.