

# **The Second Meeting of the International Advisory Board**

Time/Date: 15:00-17:00, Sunday, 5 October 2025

Venue: The Prince Kyoto Takaragaike

## Participants:

- Science Council of Japan: Prof. Dr. MITSUISHI Mamoru, President  
Prof. HIBIYA Junko, Vice-President  
Prof. ISO Hiroyasu, Vice-President  
Prof. SAIGUSA Nobuko, Vice-President  
Prof. YOSHIDA Aya, Chairperson of Section I  
Prof. SEKITANI Tsuyoshi, Secretary of Section III
  
- French Academy of Sciences: Dr. Patrick FLANDRIN, former President
- Leopoldina: Prof. Dr. Bettina ROCKENBACH, President,  
Dr. Ruth NARMANN, Head of the International Relations Division
- The Royal Society: Sir Mark WALPORT, Foreign Secretary and Vice President,  
Mr. Ian WIGGINS, Director of International Affairs
- National Academy of Sciences: Dr. Marcia McNUTT, President

## Discussion Summary:

With the main theme of ensuring independence, accelerating the provision of scientific advice, and enhancing trust with society, a lively exchange of opinions was conducted for four topics, namely, 1. recommendations to social implementation and follow-up, 2. participation in the policy-making process, 3. dialogue with citizens and society, and 4. independence, funding sources and COI management.

Regarding the process from recommendations to social implementation and follow-up, each academy presented specific examples, confirming that short-term evaluation is difficult and that social impacts are often qualitative and indirect. There was also a consensus that recommendations should be expedited while ensuring quality.

Regarding participation in the policy-making process, each academy introduced its respective mechanisms, and the main point of discussion was how to institutionalize both Government-requested and Academy-proposed approaches.

Regarding dialogue with citizens and society, early intervention in science education and building public trust in scientific advice were recognized as key issues.

Regarding independence, funding sources and COI management, the participants shared the view that the independence of an academy of sciences depends more on trust with the government than on funding sources, that the mission of scientific advice is not to provide a "single right answer" but to present options and scientific evidence to society, and that a new framework linking policy-making, public dialogue, and media dissemination is required.

The Science Council of Japan expressed that, based on the suggestions obtained this time, it would strengthen its follow-up system after the publication of recommendations, institutionalize a multi-layered science dialogue channel connecting the Diet, government, academic societies, and citizens, ensure independence and transparency, and increase the

participation of young, regional, and female scientists in order to enhance its public trust.



At the meeting



Group photo