

Greetings at Energy Symposium, June 22nd

Good morning. I wish to extend a warm welcome to you who have come from all parts of the world to attend this Symposium on the Materials Challenges for Clean Energy.

As the president of WMRIF, I would like to give just few words for this Symposium.

In June 2005, the first international meeting of the presidents of materials research institutes was held at NIMS, Japan, with the participation of 15 institutes from 8 countries. Establishment of the World Materials Research Institute Forum (WMRIF) was declared in this meeting. WMRIF is an organization to develop a worldwide network of materials research Institutes.

The second Meeting was held in June 2007, at BAM, Germany, with 31 institutes from 21 countries.

This is the 3rd meeting. Now I heard that 43 Institutes from 21 countries have joined.

The global problems of securing energy resources and suppressing climate changes are crucial challenges that entire world is facing now. **While versatile solutions are being discussed, ecological solutions based on the development of new materials are attracting public attentions. And that is how, we, materials scientists, materials research institutes, and WMRIF can contribute to solve the global problems.**

Such situations in mind, we have planned this Symposium. We have invited world top-notch researchers in the fields of materials for clean energy and environment. Cutting edge research progress will be introduced.

It will be my greatest joy, if all will be able to profit by a lively exchange of ideas. I also hope that this symposium will be a trigger for the active collaborations.

I should like to end these words of welcome with an earnest hope for the great success of this Symposium, today and tomorrow.
Thank you for the attention.