

Cabinet Office
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Zaikai Club (Keidanren)
Kyoto Prefectural Government
Kyoto City Government
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce
Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ)

PRESS RELEASE

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum Opens this Sunday (Oct. 5) in Kyoto

Tokyo, September 30, 2008 - The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum will be held in Kyoto from Oct. 5 through 7, 2008, under the overall themes of "Harmony with Nature" and "How is Information and Communication Technology affecting Humankind?." The forum is a global initiative launched in November 2004 by Koji Omi, Member of the House of Representatives, Japan, together with other international personalities.

His Imperial Highness The Crown Prince of Japan will be giving an address at the Closing Plenary Session.

Over 800 participants from more than 90 countries, regions and international organizations will take part actively in the two and a half-day program. Ministers confirmed to attend will be 35. Policy makers include: **Lino Barañao**, Minister of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (Argentina), **Jay Cohen**, Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security (US), **Grace Ekpwhre**, Minister of Science and Technology (Nigeria), **Cristina Garmendia Mendizábal**, Minister of Science and Innovation (Spain), **Hany Mahfouz Helal**, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Egypt), **Kiyoshi Kurokawa**, Special Advisor to the Cabinet; Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (Japan), **Seiko Noda**, State Minister in charge of Science and Technology and Consumer Affairs (Japan), **Annette Schavan**, Minister of Education and Research (Germany), **Kapil Sibal**, Honourable Union Minister of Science, Technology and Earth Sciences (India), **Andrew von Eschenbach**, Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), (US).

Among many world-known top experts and academics, 5 Nobel Laureates will participate: **Jerome I. Friedman**, Institute Professor and Professor of Physics Emeritus, Physics Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (US, *1990 in Physics*), **Yuan T. Lee**, President Emeritus, Distinguished Research Fellow, Institute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences, Academia Sinica (Chinese Taipei, *1986 in Chemistry*), **Mario Molina**, Professor, University of California, San Diego (UCSD) (Mexico, *1995 in Chemistry*), **Ryoji Noyori**, President, RIKEN (Japan, *2001 in Chemistry*), **F. Sherwood Rowland**, Donald Bren Research Professor of Chemistry and Earth System Science, School of Physical Sciences, University of California, Irvine (UCI) (US, *1995 in Chemistry*). Other academics includes: **Arden Bement Jr.**, Director, National Science Foundation (NSF), (US), **Catherine Bréchnac**, President, French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS); President Elect, International Council of Science (ICSU) (France), **Yegor Gaidar**, Director, The Institute for the Economy in Transition (IET), (Russia), **Yasuo Hayashi**, Chairman and CEO, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), (Japan), **Hiroshi Komiyama**, President, The University of Tokyo (Japan), **Sadako Ogata**, President, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), (Japan), **Fritz Schiesser**, President of the ETH Board, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), (Switzerland), **Lu Yongxiang**, President, Chinese Academy of Sciences (China).

Major business leaders from different countries, such as **David Brennan**, CEO, AstraZeneca Plc (UK), **Kazuo Furukawa**, Representative Executive Officer, President, CEO and Director, Hitachi Ltd.; Vice Chairman, Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), (Japan), **S. Kris Gopalakrishnan**, CEO and Managing Director, Infosys Technologies, Limited (India), **Yasuchika Hasegawa**, President, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited (Japan), **Charles Holliday Jr.**, Chairman and CEO, DuPont; Chairman, Council on Competitiveness (US), **Jeffrey Kindler**, Chairman and CEO, Pfizer Inc, (US), **Kazuo Okamoto**, Vice Chairman and Representative Director, Toyota Motor Corporation, (Japan), **Steen Riisgaard**, President and CEO, Novozymes A/S; Chairman, EuropaBio, (Denmark), **Hajime Sasaki**, Chairman of the Board, NEC Corporation (Japan), **Robert Thomson**, Managing Editor, The Wall Street Journal; Editor in Chief, Dow Jones & Company (Australia), **Jürgen Thumann**, President, Federation of German Industries (BDI), (Germany), will be featured in the program.

Attachments:

(1) Program (tentative); (2) List of Confirmed Ministers; (3) List of Confirmed Speakers (4) Press Guidelines

<For further information and Press Registration>

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From Sept. 30 to Oct. 7

STS forum Secretariat (Kyoto International Conference Center)

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