

Greetings from the New Chairman

Hiroshi Komiyama

Chairman

Science and Technology in Society *forum* (STS *forum*)



Dear all,

Upon the resignation of Mr. Koji Omi from the Chairmanship of the STS *forum* in January 2021, I was elected by the board of directors on March 2, 2021, as the new Chairman of the STS *forum*. I have participated in every one of the STS *forum* Annual Meetings since its inception in 2004. Therefore, I not just understand Founder Omi's Philosophy but fully adhere to it, and I am highly motivated to fulfill my responsibility as the new chairman of the STS *forum*.

Today, humankind is facing a variety of new challenges, which significantly affect our lives and society such as pandemic diseases, climate change, and use of artificial intelligence. Therefore, naturally, the importance of the initial concept of the STS *forum*, "lights and shadows of science and technology," is, without any doubt, increasing more than ever. It is my firm belief that time has come for us to further strengthen our efforts so that the philosophy of the STS *forum* can be further expanded and developed throughout the world.

At the same time, I am convinced that we should also embrace the rapid transformation of our world and introduce some contemporary concepts into the STS *forum* such as a synthesis in science and technology or breaking silos in many areas of our society. In this year's annual meeting program, some of these ideas are reflected in such sessions as "Analysis and Synthesis--Earth and Commons" and "Breaking Silos in Education--Lifelong Active Learning in Inclusive Society." We will also continue our efforts to enhance the inclusiveness in every aspect of the STS *forum*.

I am excited to work with all the participants, starting with our esteemed member organizations, sponsors, council members and supporting organizations in making this unique forum an even more crucial platform for global leaders inside and outside of the science and technology community to hold honest discussions based on trust. I look forward to meeting you all virtually this coming October.

Biography (Hiroshi Komiyama)

Hiroshi Komiyama, a prominent academic, scientist and engineer and leading authority in global sustainability, became Chairman of the Institute of Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc. in April 2009, after completing a four-year presidency as the 28th President at the University of Tokyo. He obtained a PhD in chemical engineering at the University of Tokyo. In 2010, he founded the 'Platinum Society Network' to achieve a sustainable society that solves environmental, aging, educational and economic issues. In 2017, he received the Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award (Knowledge Award) for his plan for solving social issues to create a better future for humanity, and acting as a driving force behind the effort to realize this vision, which he calls "Platinum Society." He was elected as the Chairman of the STS *forum* in March 2021.

Join us at: STS *forum* 2021 - 18th Annual Meeting

October 2, 3, 4 and 5, 2021

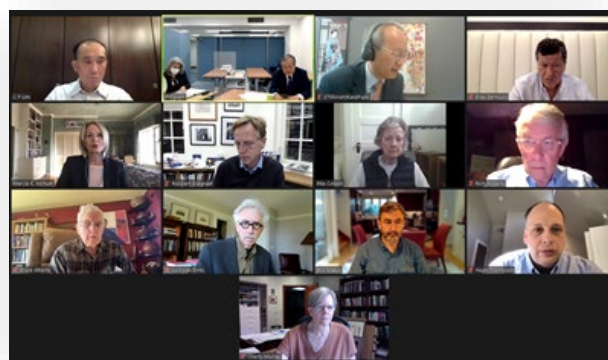
Live Online from the Kyoto International Conference Center

May 21, 2021

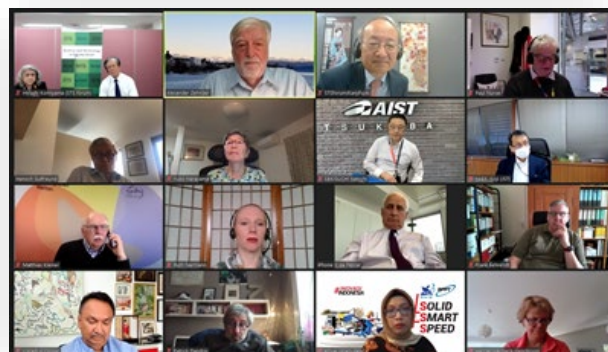
Council Meeting (Online)

On May 21, 2021 (Japan Standard Time), two Council Meetings were held online respectively for the council members mainly in North America and for the members mainly in Europe, the Middle East and Asia, given the time differences. A total of 37 Council Members and nine representatives gathered online to discuss the framework of the program of the 18th Annual Meeting to be held live online in October.

After the STS *forum's* new Chairman, Prof. Hiroshi Komiyama, made his first opening remarks as the Chairman at the council meeting and his resolution for the Chairmanship, each council member and representative gave their comments on the proposed program and shared their recommendations on the speakers. The attendees agreed on the Chairman's statement for the need to enhance the inclusiveness in the STS *forum*, and the attending members were requested to make further recommendations in that respect.



Council Meeting for the council members mainly in North America



Council Meeting for the members mainly in Europe, the Middle East and Asia



Chairman Komiyama making his opening remarks

Special Presentation to the Ambassadors in Japan

May 27, 2021

Special Presentation (Online) to the Ambassadors



The STS *forum* and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan co-hosted a special presentation meeting online on May 27, 2021, and the Ambassadors, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, and representatives of 83 countries and regions attended the meeting. This is one of our efforts to invite top government leaders to participate in the annual meeting, and, as a result, a total of 34 government ministers had participated in our 17th Annual Meeting online in 2020 and the "Science and Technology Ministers' Roundtable" held within its framework.

Upcoming: October 2-5, 2021

STS *forum* 2021 – 18th Annual Meeting (Live Online)

As we are still facing closed borders due to the pandemic, we have decided to hold the meeting online in 2021 again this year. We will set up a base studio in the Kyoto International Conference Center as last year, and all the speakers except our Chairman, Prof. Komiyama, are joining the meeting from their respective location.



STS *forum* 2020
17th Annual Meeting

Post-Session Networking

In this annual meeting, we are introducing a new “post-session networking time,” allowing participants to have informal exchanges with each of the speakers for about 30 minutes after the end of any given session. We hope that this will somewhat improve the environment for interaction in a rather comfortable setting, although this would not totally replace the fluidity of onsite networking.

Peer Meetings

We are planning to organize or co-organize online most of the peer meetings which have been taking place so far in our usual face-to-face annual meetings. Those participants who represent their organization will receive an invitation to respective peer meetings.



CTO Meeting held during
STS *forum* 2019 - 16th Annual Meeting

Young Leaders' Program

STS *forum* is also organizing the Young Leaders' Program virtually this year for selected young participants of 40 or younger, in order to nurture young leaders with diverse perspectives. A special session, “Dialogue between Young Leaders and Nobel Laureates” is scheduled to be held online.

Updates on the 18th Annual Meeting



Registration has started

Invited participants who have already obtained their log-in details should visit https://reg.stsforum.org/mypage/login.php?t=AM21_Heswl and complete their registration by September 3, 2021.



The online platform will be Microsoft Teams

Sessions as well as the post-session networking time will be conducted using Microsoft Teams.



The networking tool will soon become available

Invited participants can start using the networking tool from August 2, 2021, and continue to use it until October 31, 2021. Details will be announced later.

Provisional Program – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

(Hours in Japan Standard Time UTC+9)

Kyoto UTC+9	Delhi UTC+5.5	Riyadh UTC+3	CEST UTC+2	Greenwich UTC+1	US East UTC-4	US West UTC-7
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Saturday, October 2									
22:00-23:00	100	Opening Session: Science and Technology for the Future of Humankind	22:00	18:30	16:00	15:00	14:00	9:00	6:00
23:00-0:00	101	Green Recovery for Sustainable Society ■Post-Session Networking (0:00-0:30)	23:00	19:30	17:00	16:00	15:00	10:00	7:00
0:30-1:30 (Oct. 3)	102	Conversation with XX (TBA)	0:30 (Oct. 3)	21:00	18:30	17:30	16:30	11:30	8:30
Sunday, October 3									
13:00-14:00	200A	Breaking Silos in Education -- Lifelong Active Learning in Inclusive Society ■Post-Session Networking (14:00-14:30)	13:00	9:30	7:00	6:00	5:00	0:00	21:00 (Oct.2)
	200B	Disruptive Technologies for Industries ■Post-Session Networking (14:00-14:30)							
– Intermission –									
21:00-22:00	201	Global Pandemic -- Lessons Learned and Forecast (Preparedness) ■Post-Session Networking (22:00-22:30)	21:00	17:30	15:00	14:00	13:00	8:00	5:00
22:30-23:30	202	Analysis and Synthesis in Science -- Earth and Commons ■Post-Session Networking (23:30-0:00)	22:30	19:00	16:30	15:30	14:30	9:30	6:30
0:00-1:00 (Oct. 4)	203A	Advanced and Precision Medicine and Bioengineering ■Post-Session Networking (1:00-1:30 Oct. 4)	0:00 (Oct. 4)	20:30	18:00	17:00	16:00	11:00	8:00
	203B	The Second Quantum Revolution and Society ■Post-Session Networking (1:00-1:30 Oct. 4)							
Monday, October 4									
13:00-14:00	300A	Basic Science, Innovation and Policy ■Post-Session Networking (14:00-14:30)	13:00	9:30	7:00	6:00	5:00	0:00	21:00 (Oct.3)
	300B	AI and Robotics ■Post-Session Networking (14:00-14:30)							
– Intermission –									
21:00-22:00	301	Enhancing Collaboration in Global Health ■Post-Session Networking (22:00-22:30)	21:00	17:30	15:00	14:00	13:00	8:00	5:00
22:30-23:30	302A	Lights and Shadows of Digital Economy ■Post-Session Networking (23:30-0:00)	22:30	19:00	16:30	15:30	14:30	9:30	6:30
	302B	International Collaboration in S&T ■Post-Session Networking (23:30-0:00)							
0:00-1:00 (Oct. 5)	303A	Nurturing S&T Talents in Developing Countries ■Post-Session Networking (1:00-1:30 Oct. 5)	0:00 (Oct. 5)	20:30	18:00	17:00	16:00	11:00	8:00
	303B	State of the Arts Energy-Related Technologies ■Post-Session Networking (1:00-1:30 Oct. 5)							
Tuesday, October 5									
13:00-14:00	400	Science and Technology to Build a Resilient Society ■Post-Session Networking (14:00-14:30)	13:00	9:30	7:00	6:00	5:00	0:00	21:00 (Oct.4)
– Intermission –									
21:00-22:00	401	Collaboration among Academia, Industries and Government ■Post-Session Networking (22:00-22:30)	21:00	17:30	15:00	14:00	13:00	8:00	5:00
22:30-23:30	402	Path Toward Net-Zero Emission ■Post-Session Networking (23:30-0:00)	22:30	19:00	16:30	15:30	14:30	9:30	6:30
0:00-1:00 (Oct. 6)	403	Closing (Key Messages from the 18th Annual Meeting, including RACC & Peer Meetings)	0:00 (Oct. 6)	20:30	18:00	17:00	16:00	11:00	8:00

2021 Plans

July 15	Program Committee
October 2, 3, 4 & 5	STS forum 2021 – 18th Annual Meeting Live Online
November 11	Board Meeting (Online)
November 12	General Meeting (Online)
November 18	Program Committee
TBD	STS forum Russia–Japan Workshop 2021 (Online or in Moscow)
TBD	Inaugural Meeting of the STS forum–Latin America and the Caribbean High-Level Conference (in Mexico City, Mexico or Hybrid)