

Inaugural Meeting of The STS *forum* - Latin America and the Caribbean High-Level Conference

The Inaugural of the STS *forum*-Latin America High-Level Conference was held in a “double hybrid format” (connecting two venues, Mexico City and Tokyo) under the umbrella theme of “Science and Technology Diplomacy.”

- **Date, Time, Venues:** December 7th - 8th, 2021, Mexico City (Secretariat of Foreign Affairs)
December 8th - 9th, 2021, Tokyo (Mexican Embassy in Tokyo)
- **Co-Organized by:** Science and Technology in Society forum (STS *forum*)
Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, Government of Mexico
- With the support of:** Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

Opening Ceremony

- KOMIYAMA Hiroshi, Chairman, STS *forum*, JP
- HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs, JP
- Marcelo EBRARD CASAUBON, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, MX



First Thematic Panel: “Science and Technology Diplomacy and International Cooperation”

- 🇺🇳 Panelists agreed that diplomacy has a vital role in ensuring all people access to necessary knowledge unless access is restricted by such limitations as language difference.

[Chair] Laura Elena CARRILLO, Executive Director, Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), MX

- **KAJITA Takaaki**, President, Science Council of Japan, Physics Nobel 2015, JP
- **Alejandro ADEM**, President, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, CA
- **SHISHIDO Kenichi**, Vice President for STI and Migrant Workers, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), JP
- **Arturo REYES SANDOVAL**, Director General, National Polytechnic Institute, MX



Second Thematic Panel: “Pandemic Response – COVID 19”

✚ We learned that the responses to the pandemic were manyfold, and that this unprecedented pandemic situation required creative solutions. The fast development of RNA messenger-based vaccines and their deployment surely was one of the responses to be noted. It was agreed that since the pandemic is a global problem, knowledge plays a significant role, but it is also vital to make good use of connectivity since it helps to work on programs to cover all people and places.

【Chair】 KUROKAWA Kiyoshi, Chairman of Health and Global Policy Institute, JP

- **Cristián MORALES**, Representative in Mexico, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/ World Health Organization (WHO), MX
- **KANEKO Hiroyuki**, Vice President, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), JP
- **Esther OROZCO**, Scientific Consultant of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MX
- **Alfredo RIMOCH**, Chief Executive Officer, Liomont Laboratories, MX
- **YAMADA Koichi**, Corporate Vice President, Fujifilm Holdings Corporation, JP
- **Carlos SLIM DOMIT**, Slim Foundation, MX



Third Thematic Panel: “Technology in Health”

✚ Focusing on the application of technology in the health sector, highlighted many incredible achievements that were made possible in this area. In applying state-of-the-art technologies, however, are problems such as high costs they entail, which place a limit on the number of beneficiaries. The panelists agreed that accessibility of such technologies to all will become one of the important goals.

【Chair】 William H. LEE, Vice Chancellor for Science, Autonomous National University of Mexico, MX

- **Luis HERRERA MONTALVO**, General Director, National Institute of Genomic, MX
- **Christian PEÑALOZA**, Managing Director, Mirai Innovation Research Institute, MX
- **Enzo ROMERO**, General Manager LAT Bionics, PE
- **David KERSHENOBICH**, Director, National Nutrition Institute of Mexico, MX



Fourth Thematic Panel: “Policy Making in Science and Technology Based Society”

Common issues identified in the regions were the pandemic and climate change. The importance of the region producing its own research was emphasized. This local research being translated into vibrant startups is key for economic future of countries, and government collaboration is essential.

【Chair】 Martha DELGADO, Undersecretary, Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, MX

- **Raymond JAGESSAR**, Professor, University of Guyana; President, Caribbean Academy of Sciences, GY
- **Alicia BÁRCENA**, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), CL
- **Salvador LANDEROS AYALA**, Director General, Mexican Space Agency, MX
- **HAYASHI Haruo**, President of National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Resilience (NIED), JP
- **Juan ENRÍQUEZ CABOT**, Managing Director, Excel Venture Management, US



Fifth Thematic Panel: “Innovation Ecosystem - Learning from Best Practices”

This session focused on innovation ecosystem. It was stressed that it is important to separate the two notions of invention and innovation, and to have a good management system for innovation. Data is this century’s oil, and it can be produced from all universities and other institutions throughout the region. Gender issues, in all aspects of science and innovation sphere, including universities, were also raised.

【Chair】 Susana LIZANO SOBERON, President, Technology and Innovation Council, MX

- **NISHIGUCHI Hiro**, CEO, Japan Innovation Network (JIN), JP
- **Roberto ESCALANTE**, Secretary General, Association of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean (UDUAL), MX
- **David JASO**, CEO, Learnetic Latin America, SA de CV, MX
- **Blanca TREVIÑO DE LA VEGA**, President & CEO, Softtek, MX
- **Alexis ROIG**, CEO, SciTech DiploHub - Barcelona Science and Technology Diplomacy Hub, ES
- **YAMAUCHI Banjo**, Family Representative, Yamauchi No.10 Family Office, JP



Prepared by STS forum (12/13/2021)

Sixth Thematic Panel: “Innovation as an instrument to transform the world”

🌐 Innovative technologies should be put at use to solve humanity’s common problems and challenges, such as the SDGs. This conclusion is fully in line with our STS forum’s values.

【Chair】 **Enrique CASTANEDA**, Chancellor, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, PE 【Chair】

- **Mateo VALERO**, Founder, Barcelona Supercomputing Center, ES
- **TSUJII Junichi**, AIST Fellow & AIRC Director, Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC), National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), JP
- **Claudia DEL POZO**, Executive Director, Eon Resilience Lab of C Minds, MX
- **Kiyoshi TSURU**, President, Committee on Professional Competencies of the Business Coordinating Council Mexico, MX
- **Priscila RODRIGUEZ**, Director, Innovation and Technology Transfer, Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation of Ecuador, EC



Closing Session

- **FUJIKI Kanji**, Executive Director, STS *forum*, JP
- **Marcelo EBRARD CASAUBON**, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, MX



Over the two half-days conference, over 300 people from various fields such as research/academia, business and policymaking gathered in person and online.

The 2nd STS *forum* - Latin America and the Caribbean High- Level Conference will be held in March 2023.