
The 3rd Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium

Green Innovation & Life Innovation

- for sustainable growth and society by Japan-EU collaboration -

PROGRAMME

- Opening 9:30 - 10:00 Netherlands III
MC: Prof. Chiharu Nakamura, Executive Vice-President of Kobe University
- 9:30 Opening Address by Dr. Hideki Fukuda, President of Kobe University
- 9:40 Speech by H.E. Mr. Kojiro Shiojiri, Ambassador of Japan to the European Union
- 9:50 Speech by Mr. Isi Saragossi, Director responsible for International Cooperation of DG RTD,
European Commission
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- Session 1 10:00 - 12:30 Netherlands III
Radiation Dose Reduction Strategy and its Application as Low-dose CT in Future
-
- Session 2 10:00 - 12:30 Netherlands II
Social Aspects of Life Innovation on the European and Japanese Societies
-
- Session 3 14:00 - 18:00 Netherlands III
Innovative Bioproduction for Sustainable Society
-
- Session 4 14:00 - 18:00 Netherlands II
Innovation of Health Engineering for Ageing Society

Dr. Hideki Fukuda
President of Kobe University



Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to the 3rd Symposium of Kobe University Brussels European Centre.

Today, we have many distinguished guests in attendance, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude in particular to honorable guests, His Excellency Ambassador Kojiro Shiojiri, Mission of Japan to the European Union, and Mr. Isi Saragossi, the Director responsible for International Cooperation of Directorate-General for Research and Innovation in the European Commission. Moreover, we have in attendance prominent researchers from Belgium, Germany, and Sweden; I am most grateful for everyone's participation today.

The themes of this symposium, "Green Innovation and Life Innovation" are two of the major concepts suggested by the Japanese government in its New Growth Strategy as well as by the EU in Horizon 2020. Under the agreement on science and technology, Japan and the EU have been cooperating in the fields of science, technology and innovation by promoting research collaboration in areas of mutual interest and benefit.

Kobe University has been participating in the current Framework Programme, FP7, in the fields of nano-technology, disaster management and aquaphotomics. By establishing Kobe University Brussels European Centre, we are enhancing the strong ties with European institutions in the fields of science and technology, as well as social sciences and humanities.

In this respect, we will introduce today the outstanding research projects in the areas of health and environment, which are being undertaken at our university and other collaborative universities. In this symposium, we hope to share the latest research and pursue further collaboration with our European partners in order to achieve yet further advancement. The areas we cover are:

- Radiation dose reduction as a common issue in clinical medicine, including advanced technology for diagnosis.
- The ageing society from a social sciences perspective
- Bio-production, and
- Health engineering for ageing societies

This research has been identified as being of common interest to both Japan and the EU. I very much hope this symposium will lead to further collaboration between us and thereby contribute to social development and sustainable prosperity in our respective societies.

I thank you all again for participating in today's Symposium.

H.E. Mr. Kojiro Shiojiri
Ambassador of Japan to the European Union



Dr. Hideki Fukuda, Distinguished participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to be here today for the 3rd Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium. I would like to extend my appreciation and congratulations to those who have realised this event. Today's themes of sustainable growth and society are high priorities for Japan. I hope each of today's sessions will give new momentum to Japan-EU collaboration in these fields.

The history of our societies is the history of overcoming the difficulties we face. Japan has been moving forward by overcoming difficulties. Currently we are facing huge challenges. The most essential is how to revitalise our society and economy. I believe that this revitalisation is the best way to honour those who lost their precious lives and loved ones in the 3/11 disaster. The disaster brought about a new focus, and opened our eyes to new challenges. Japan is now on a path to find a new paradigm. In this pursuit Japan will tackle the urgent issues of responding to climate change, realisation of a low carbon economy, the challenges of an aging society and maintaining the workforce. With these in mind, we face a fundamental question, how do we turn our difficulties

into strengths? In answering this question, Green and Life Innovation will play a central role. And moreover, joint collaboration will ensure its success.

Cooperation between Japan and the EU needs to reach for a higher level, to ensure that the common challenges we face are answered by common solutions. Our level of ambition must respond to the challenge of realising sustainable growth and society. I believe that Japan-EU collaboration can bring about the innovations we need to overcome the difficulties we face. As many of the sessions here today will discuss, the importance of innovation in all areas is paramount to developing a sustainable economy and enriching our lives. Progress is being made on all levels of Japan-EU cooperation. Last week, Japan and the EU opened negotiations on a comprehensive EPA and Global Partnership Agreement. These agreements will act as the pillars on which our relationship can continue to build. By deepening our relationship and focusing on innovation in all fields, we will ensure sustainable growth into the future.

We have a lot of room to work together in and this symposium will bring forward new opportunities for collaboration in Green and Life Innovation. My wish is for all Japan, all the EU, all academic, researchers and innovators of Japan and the EU to come together with new wisdom, so that we can reach higher. From this perspective, I am looking forward to the discussion of this conference.

Thank you.

Mr. Isi Saragossi

Director responsible for International Cooperation of DG RTD, European Commission



Ambassador Shiojiri, President Fukuda, Distinguished Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is an honour and a great pleasure for me to open this Symposium, on behalf of Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our distinguished Speakers and to our Participants, all of whom are actively com-

mitted to fostering science and technology dialogue between the EU and Japan.

Kono kaigi e yōkosso! (welcome to this conference)

This is the third such Symposium organised by Kobe University European Centre. We are very grateful for this initiative, and for this opportunity to hear (and share insights and experience with) leading European and Japanese specialists and policy makers.

This is a very timely meeting.

As you know, exactly one week ago, the Foreign Affairs Council of Ministers decided to give the European Commission the 'green light' to start negotiations to conclude a Free Trade Agreement with Japan. This is a crucial step in our bilateral relations. It is also a crucial step in our relations in science, technology - and, particularly, in innovation. STI-related issues will feature prominently in these discussions, and on the agenda of the forthcoming EU-Japan Summit.

This is also a very appropriate meeting.

The two challenges addressed today "Green Innovation" and "Life Innovation" are two core areas of the "4th Japanese Basic Plan for Science and Technology", published last year. They are also the "grand societal challenges" identified in Horizon 2020. Two "grand challenges" which Europe and Japan have to face in common. Two challenges which will require full cooperation between Europe and Japan if we are to address them successfully.

I would like to congratulate Kobe University for convening this event, and for the key role it plays in promoting EU-Japan science and technology cooperation.

As you know [and as was just mentioned by Ambassador Shiojiri/President Fukuda] Kobe University is the first (and so far the only) Japanese University to have an overseas office in Brussels, the Kobe University Brussels European Centre which covers the whole of Europe.

The opening in March last year, just days before the terrible tragedy which struck Japan, was impressive. You will remember that EU Council President Herman von Rompuy, who visited Kobe University the year before

personally opened the new Centre, and gave an inspiring speech. Let me repeat some of his words “With this opening Kobe University is creating a new hub for our relationship. A new and strong knot combining all the threads that link our two societies”.

Kobe University’s Centre in Europe plays a key, and very original role, in EU-Japan research cooperation. Not only by organising policy and brokerage events like this Symposium today. But also by designing, together with leading European Universities, very focused and personalised research projects for its best post graduates.

I would like also to stress the role which Kobe University plays as a valued partner for European research in Japan itself. Kobe University belongs to the “EU Institutes in Japan”, which plays a very active role in disseminating information on European research to Japanese universities and research organisations, as well as in setting up joint project between EU and Japanese universities and research centres.

It is also a key partner of our Delegation in Tokyo, regularly contributing to its conferences and workshops, such as the recent workshop on standardisation, and the highly successful EU-Japan conference in October on Active and Healthy Ageing. And I am happy to salute here today several of the speakers who took part in both these events, in particular Professor Luo Zhiwei.

We welcome such commitments to Europe and European research.

Japan and Europe should develop a strong strategic partnership in research and innovation.

The EU-Japan S&T Agreement which was ratified last year provides a solid foundation for our cooperation. Currently, Japanese research organisations participate in 56 research projects in FP7. A number of coordinated calls have been successfully launched, in key areas such as ICT, energy, materials, and aeronautics research. Key priority areas for reinforced cooperation have been identified by both sides, at the last Joint S&T Committee meeting including active and healthy ageing (a key topic of today’s conference), low carbon technologies and critical new materials.

But we can, and should do more.

There is room for enhancing considerably the scope and impact of our cooperation – and to bring it to a level commensurate with our respective roles in the global economy, and in the field of science and innovation.

We face the same societal challenges. We share many values, including regarding the conduct of science. We also are working to establish stronger economic relations.

We should make optimal use of all relevant programmes and instruments on both sides to enhance and focus our cooperation, based on the principles of common interest, mutual benefit, and reciprocity. And the new FP Horizon 2020, with its increased emphasis on international cooperation, will provide excellent opportunities to reinforce our cooperation - and to turn our present partnership in a true “strategic partnership”.

We were very pleased and encouraged during recent meetings we held in Japan with various Ministries (MEXT, METI, Cabinet Office) and research organisations, to observe a renewed interest for Europe, and a clear will to cooperate more and better in research and innovation.

This conference will contribute to reinforcing our dialogue, and should help identify concrete and ambitious projects for future cooperation. We hope Kobe’s example will inspire other Japanese organisations and help convey the message that in Research and Innovation, Europe is “Open for Business”!

Domo Arigato Gozaimas! Thank you.