

Opening Address

GOHSHI Yohichi
President of NIES, Japan

Good morning, everyone. Firstly, let me express my deep appreciation again to President Rhee of NIER, Korea and President Meng of CRAES, China for your participation to this meeting. On behalf of my institute, I would like to welcome both of you and all participants gathered here today.



At the previous meeting in Beijing, we could have a very fruitful discussion and have agreed to strengthen cooperation among three institutes. We have also agreed on its general mechanism. I am confident that the meeting in Beijing provides a very good point of departure for our future cooperation.

The task before us today is to discuss how to move ahead along the road created in Beijing.

Yesterday, we tried to introduce some of our research facilities and research activities at NIES Headquarter. During the international workshop, we could have opportunities to learn excellent research outputs and to have inspiring discussions in the field of freshwater pollution control.

Through the presentations and discussions at the workshop, I noted that high-tech or advanced technologies are not necessarily effective to all cases. There is no blue print universally applicable to all cases. Any efforts for technology transfer in the future should fully reflect socio-economic and environmental conditions in each case. It needs far more effort and study than high-tech or leading-edge research. I do hope that yesterday's program would be helpful for all of you to discuss our future activities during the today's session.

In general, the role of environmental science is to fill the gaps between existing knowledge and actions towards sustainable development. And, in this regard, what we need to do is to close such knowledge–action gaps.

Those are the points, rather than many others, to be kept in our mind when developing future cooperation activities and the programs.

Finally, I would like to extend me deep appreciation to the delegates of NIER and CRAES for their very hard work to prepare for this meeting. I wish you all the best for a very successful meeting.

Thank you for your attention.

