

Closing Remarks

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Distinguished Guests and Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In closing the International Symposium on the "Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest Lands in the Tropics", I would like to thank all of you for your active participation, presentation of sophisticated papers and fruitful discussion, in the symposium.

The goals of this symposium were ; firstly to exchange information and to deepen our knowledge and understanding about the present situation of tropical forest lands, then secondly to seek ways of rehabilitating degraded forest lands through scientific or technical approaches.

I believe that we have reached these goals to a certain extent despite the short period of the symposium. On the other hand, it is obvious that many problems still remain to be solved. I must say here that we researchers are in the position of playing an important role in solving such problems. I am convinced that we will make constant efforts to achieve this objective, day after day and year after year. I am indeed very proud that we can share such opportunities through our cooperative research activities.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to thank personally all of you again, and particularly Mr. Kashio from FAO, Dr. Bevege from ACIAR, Dr. Meka from ITTO and Dr. Sanchez from ICRAF for your presentations and significant contribution to the success of this symposium.

Here we close the symposium. The organizing committee members really appreciated your cooperation throughout the symposium. We do hope that the delegates from overseas will enjoy their stay in Japan.

Thank you.