

## Closing Remarks

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Distinguished guests, participants, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the organizers, I would like to say a few concluding remarks to end this symposium.

This afternoon time was limited, but I personally believe that we have learned lots of comprehensive views on the role of research in tackling the issue of transboundary protection at the regional or international level.

We also learned that the mitigation of transboundary plant pests requires concerted, connected efforts and joint activities. These activities should involve information-sharing and quick exchange of information, for establishing networks to promote research and conduct research collaborations such as joint efforts and joint projects, and also for working with international bodies like IPCC, FAO, and the CGIAR centers.

We have also learned that we must raise awareness among the people. We are reminded of the importance of increasing awareness among all the relevant stakeholders, including researchers, and awareness on how protection is important in addressing global problems such as hunger, poverty, improvement of livelihood, and even environmental conservation. So I hope we learned various things, and that this symposium was successful.

I would like to take this moment to thank all our speakers, especially the keynote speakers, Dr. Jingyuan Xia, and Dr. Ulrich Kuhlmann, and all of the session speakers, for their excellent presentations, as well as the session chairpersons, and the moderators for summarizing the presentations and facilitating discussions. JIRCAS is also very grateful for the opportunity to have co-organized this symposium with the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization, NARO, Japan. I would like to offer a special word of gratitude to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, MAFF, and to the Phytopathological Society of Japan, the Japanese Society of Applied Entomology and Zoology, the FAO Liaison Office in Japan, and the Japan Forum on International Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development, for their strong support.

Finally, thank you to all our symposium participants and to everyone involved in planning and holding this event. We are truly grateful for your valuable contribution and attendance.

Thank you very much and have a good evening.