

## Welcome Address

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Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great privilege and pleasure to address you today at this opening ceremony of the seminar on Pesticide Use in Developing Countries – Present and Future.

I should first like to express my deep appreciation to the Tropical Agriculture Research Center of Japan for its gracious support and assistance in co-sponsoring this meeting with our Center. I should also like to thank all the distinguished participants here today for accepting our invitation to attend this meeting.

Two years ago we held a symposium on the Problems of Insect Pest Management in Developing Countries. This was part of the 16th International Congress of Entomology, held in Kyoto and also sponsored by the Tropical Agriculture Research Center. At the symposium some very interesting and significant research emerged on pesticides and plant protection. This seminar today, part of the Fifth International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry, is a further development of that meeting, with new and additional research, and delegates from additional countries who were not represented in the previous meeting.

We have tried in our seminar over the next two days to maintain a reasonable balance in the various fields of research. Of course our main topic will be the use of pesticides, but there will also be papers on plant pathology, entomology and weed science.

The agriculture of today faces serious problems in pest management. There are new pests, there is pesticide resistance, there are problems with pesticide residues. I feel that this seminar will make a valuable contribution in helping us solve these problems. I also hope that through our joint efforts, friendship and cooperation will be strengthened.

Finally, may I again express my thanks to the distinguished participants and honored guests assembled here.

Thank you.