

Welcome Address

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Chairman of the Liaison Committee of the Vth International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry and the President of the Pesticide Science Society of Japan, I heartily welcome all of you.

Japan is the country not only where "East meets West" but also where "North meets South" — a meeting point for the world. As such, it seems a fitting place to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on the subject "Pesticide Use in Developing Countries — Present and Future". This is the title of a satellite symposium to be held September 2–4, 1982 at the Kyoto International Conference Hall, one of this country's historical cities. Jointly sponsored by the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center (FFTC) and the Tropical Agriculture Research Center (TARC) of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, this symposium takes place at the same time and in the same location as the 5th International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry. As one specialized science in the general field of pest control, pesticide chemistry should be viewed in its proper perspective and it seems most appropriate that this symposium on present and future direction take place concurrently with this Congress. Certainly the recognized necessity of doubling the food production in developing countries during the next fifty years is requiring all of us involved in agriculture to consider the best ways in which this may be done.

Developing countries are located primarily in the tropics and natural tropical conditions not only favor pests but also host their parasites and predators. Conventional agriculture has been based on these conditions but the need for increased agricultural production has introduced new crop varieties, fertilizers and pesticides and pest control problems have become greater. Pest control based solely on pesticide use may result in increased cost, resistance, a resurgence of pests, pollution, and toxic hazards, as developed countries have already acutely experienced. Although these experiences of temperate zones may or may not be applicable to tropical areas, the history to date should be carefully evaluated.

An exchange of ideas, experiences and hopes between involved scientists of developing and industrialized nations may allow us to better understand and plan in the most rational and farsighted manner for the years ahead. Based on our present policies and practices, we can learn from and with each other, and out of this may well evolve the best direction for pesticide use to take in the developing countries for future progress.

Thank you.