

## Closing Address

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Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Delegates,

For the last three days this Symposium has successfully been carried out under active and fruitful discussions, and from the standpoint of deepening our mutual understanding and exchange of informations, I do firmly believe that the Symposium achieved its major objective and was a great success.

Particularly to those distinguished delegates from abroad I extend our deep gratitude for your understanding of the objectives of the Symposium, and to the related institutions of participating governments, for their willing cooperations.

As was reported in the Symposium Japan has been engaged in detailed research on fertilizer application to rice, and the research findings were widely extended to farmer, resulting in farmer's acquisition of stabilized and high yielding techniques. However, in the course of that achievement, besides the extension of research findings, comprehensive agricultural policies, such as rice price support, land improvement projects and the development of chemical industry insuring the supply of cheap fertilizer have played a very important roles.

The research on rice in Japan is not directed simply to the increased rice production but to seek the ultimate reality of plant growth by using our most typical plant, the rice, and the findings, we believe, can be applied not only in rice culture throughout the world but on the research of other crops.

Of course, we neither think nor advocate that our findings are applicable as they are to tropical and sub-tropical regions. To ensure the establishment of proper cultivation technique in accordance with the natural conditions of the regions many practical researches should be carried out intensively and to accomplish that very close cooperation among the countries is important and indispensable. All of us concerned with tropical agricultural research in Japan hope to cooperate in this phase to full extent.

For the last three days we have tackled and discussed various problems of mutual interest and we have deepened our mutual understanding and friendship. If this Symposium has contributed even in a small way to the furtherance of cooperation among the participating countries, we are more than gratified.

We are to start on field trip for three days from tomorrow to Niigata prefecture which is one of Japan's rice bowls and now in harvesting season. I do sincerely hope you enjoy every minute of your study trip.

In conclusion, may I again thank each and every delegate for your undivided cooperation and may I also wish you a good health and a great success in your respective field of research. I thank you.