

Dear Colleague,

It is two months after the earthquake and tsunami struck the northeast Japan. We would like to express our thanks again to all people and nations for their help and encouragement. Things are slowly moving to the better after the disaster, although it seems to take long time till return to fully recovered, especially till the settlement of the accident at Fukushima power plant.

We would like to inform you once more that INTER-NOISE 2011 will be held as scheduled September 4-7, 2011 in Osaka, located more than 600 km southwest of Fukushima, with no danger from radioactive pollution and with no trouble on food, transportation, etc. Please look at a message from the Governor, Osaka Prefecture et al., attached below. You may also look at the website <http://www.osaka-info.jp/en/> to get information on the current Osaka.

Preparation for INTER-NOISE 2011 continues to proceed smoothly on schedule. We are pleased to inform that most abstracts submitted have been accepted for presentation at the congress. Please do not hesitate to ask us if you do not receive an e-mail of abstract acceptance or if you have questions.

We will be happy if you come to Osaka and collaborate with us for a successful INTER-NOISE 2011. Thank you very much for your continuing support of us!

Sincerely yours,

Ichiro Yamada, Congress President

On behalf of the INTER-NOISE 2011 Congress Organizing Committee

Message from the Governor, Osaka Prefecture et al., copied from the OCTB website

http://www.osaka-info.jp/en/octb/images/110511message_en.pdf

May 11, 2011

Dear Friends of the World,

Two months have passed since the Tohoku and Kanto Regions were hit by the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and tsunami. The number of dead and missing is more than 24,000, making this the worst disaster for Japan since World War II.

People around the world have shown sympathy and concern and provided aid and support to Japan during this time of hardship, and I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude as an individual citizen of this country.

While continuing aid efforts for the affected areas, we are also remembering the lessons learned from the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake in 1995 and stepping forward to help realize Japan's full recovery.

As the core of the second largest metropolitan area in Japan, Osaka, Kansai, must now take a leading role to reenergize the whole Japanese economy.

Given its distance from the areas affected, Osaka has suffered virtually no damage. Here in Osaka, and the rest of Western Japan, the living environment and business infrastructure, including water, electricity and transportation are safe, sound and fully functioning as usual.

We are moving forward to promote business, culture, entertainment, and tourism as ever before, and I urge you to also help Japan's recover by visiting Osaka, Kansai, and other unaffected regions. We hope that, with your help, we can act as a light for the affected regions, and reinvigorate Japan as a whole.

Sincerely yours,

Toru Hashimoto, Governor, Osaka Prefecture

Kunio Hiramatsu, Mayor, City of Osaka

Osami Takeyama, Mayor, Sakai City,

Shigetaka Sato, Chairman, Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Kanji Maeda, Chairman, Sakai Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Kazuaki Tsuda, Chairman, Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau

Sadao Wada, Chairman, Sakai Tourism & Convention Bureau