

Welcome Address of Communications Research Laboratory

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and a privilege for me to participate in the opening ceremony of the Second General Meeting of International VLBI Service for Geodesy and Astrometry. As the President of Communications Research Laboratory, I am proud to have been given the responsibility on this important occasion held in Tsukuba, Japan.

I would like to thank all participants for their interest and efforts in helping us make this General Meeting possible, especially those who traveled great distance and taken valuable time from their very busy schedules to attend the conference.

Since the September Eleven tragedy last year, we Japanese people have also reconfirmed the importance of the national security. For Japanese, the earthquake hazards are also very urgent subject of national security. For the measures of earthquake hazards, GPS satellites play very important roles on Japanese Islands. The cooperation between VLBI and GPS is very important to confirm the accuracy of geodetic measurements. The real-time VLBI using the global high-speed network will be important to improve the accuracy and analyzing speed of GPS geodesy. As the only national institute regarding info-communication research in Japan, CRL is interested in realizing the global real-time VLBI experiments and the rapid determination of earth-orientation parameters.

I heard that on the Ice-breaker ceremony last evening you enjoyed the Japanese historical early-spring events “Setsubun Mamemaki” scattering parched beans to drive out evil spirits and summon good luck. I wish all participants of this General Meeting have a pleasant stay in Japan and enriching experience both personal and professional.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Takashi Iida
President, Communications Research Laboratory

