

## Welcome Address

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great honor to have the opportunity to say a few words before starting this symposium. First of all, on behalf of all members of the Advanced Science Research Center, namely the ASRC, I would like to express our great pleasure in welcoming all of you and in hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Advanced Science Research.

As our president pointed out, the ASRC was established in 1993. Since then one of the most important functions assigned to this center has been to promote and initiate basic research activities in atomic energy and related fields, in collaboration with scientists throughout our country as well as abroad.

In view of the rapidly advancing frontiers of science and technology, and the increasing importance of international collaboration, I strongly felt that our center should play a leading role to promote scientific activities in a worldwide form. This is not only a give-and-take information exchange with the outside world but also we intend to promote harmony between different scientific disciplines through the establishment of new programs at our center.

As one action for the global promotion of our research activities, we have decided to host a series of international symposia on various topics in the fields of interest. The present symposium is the first of this series. Although this particular symposium is rather large in scale, which I did not intend in the beginning, we do not necessarily expect that every symposium will be like this. The size and format of each symposium will be chosen flexibly considering the nature of its topic. As a matter of fact, we have already started to organize the next symposium on the subject of Nuclear Chemistry, the size of which may be a half of this symposium. In any case, however, in addition to promoting exchange of expert insights, we would like to encourage particularly young scientists to present papers in each symposium on their new results from the frontiers of science and technology, and to help them to get an overview of fields they are involved in.

The topic of the present symposium is Advances in Neutron Scattering Research. I will not go into detail about the Neutron Sciences now. Nevertheless, let me emphasize one thing. That is, that Neutron Scattering Research based on JRR-3M at JAERI has been highly successful and that this facility has celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment. I am very proud of the 18 scientists in our center who have contributed to this success. As everyone has learned by now, we are going to have a higher level of the Neutron Science here in Tokai. Toward this development, we are now in the process of reorganization of the neutron research group in our center. Besides the scientific outcome, I am hoping that new ideas for the reorganization will also emerge from various discussions at the symposium.

Finally, I would like to thank our president, Mr. Murakami, to allow us to hold this type of symposium with financial sponsorship. My special gratitude goes to Professor Yamada and other members of the Organizing Committee, as well as the members of the science promotion office in our center, for their effort in planning this symposium. I also wish to give appreciation to the Neutron Scattering Association of Japan for their collaboration.

I would like to close my speech by expressing my sincere wishes for the success of the symposium, and for all participants to discover new opportunities in the still growing area of Neutron Sciences and Technologies.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Hiroshi Yasuoka  
Director of the Advanced Science Research Center