

Discussing the new role of science centres

The Science Centre World Summit 2017 has started

On November 15, 2017, at 9 am, for the first time by an Asian nation, the Science Centre World Summit 2017 was commenced at Miraikan - the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan; Mamoru Mohri, Chief Executive Director), Tokyo, Japan. The Summit, organized once in every three years, is a place where representatives of science centers from around the world, along with educators, policy makers, and industry and citizens communities meet to discuss new roles science centres should play in the coming future. The central theme of the Summit is “Connecting the World for a Sustainable Future.” For 3 days, 828 participants from 98 countries and regions will discuss a wide range of regional/global issues and strategies that science centers can adopt to transform and progress toward a new model in cooperation with organizations from other sectors, and, contribute to the realization of a sustainable Earth, and therefore, a sustainable human species.

■ The opening ceremony ■

The opening ceremony was held in the presence of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince, and many guests including representatives of science centres, embassy officials, conference participants and others. In the opening speech, Dr. Mohri, the Chair of the International Programme Committee, welcomed all participants and expressed his expectation with words: “In this Summit, I would like to think with people around the world about what we should do to preserve our rich planet for future generations”.

Following Dr. Mohri, His Imperial Highness Crown Prince expressed his hope “that the participants of this Summit will deepen their mutual understanding and friendship, share a vision and ways for a sustainable future, and take other important steps forward for the achievement of a better society.”

The opening speech was concluded by HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, the president of the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan, with her message that “to realize a sustainable society, it is important for the world to face science and technology together. It is essential that scientists gather to share their knowledge, and educate, empower, stimulate, and enlighten people of all generations”.



■ Keynote lecture/session ■

In the following keynote lecture, Architect Tadao Ando shared his thought that “People's lives became convenient and comfortable, but the Earth has weakened.” and in his message stated that “In order to pass our beautiful Earth to our children, it is important that we create opportunities and places where children can cultivate their ‘ability to think’.” In the subsequent key session, Astronaut Jan Davis together with Dr. Mohri discussed the importance of international cooperation for the progress of science and technology.



■ Parallel session ■

After the keynote session, various parallel sessions started where participants discuss what concrete actions and new guidelines science centres can adopt to contribute to solving global issues.

In the “Global Trends and the Potential Role of Science Centres” session, the participants exchanged their thoughts on topics such as: “Science Museum is a place where people use scientific evidence to support their thoughts, decisions and actions”.

More than 45 sessions will be held during the Summit.



For more information about the Science Centre World Summit 2017: <https://scws2017.org/>

For more information related to the event contact

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