The Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum, inaugurated in November 2004, holds an annual meeting starting on the first Sunday of October every year, in Kyoto, Japan. The meeting is aimed at creating a global human network based on trust and providing a framework for open discussions regarding the further progress of science and technology for the sake of humankind, while controlling ethical, safety and environmental issues resulting from it. In seeking to ensure further progress in science and technology throughout the 21st century, it is necessary to keep potential problems under proper control based on shared values, and to establish a common base for promoting science and technology. Because international efforts as well as concerted efforts between different constituencies to address these problems are needed, every autumn, the forum gathers top leaders – including policymakers, business executives, scientists, researchers and media – from all over the world.

**Overview of the 4th Annual Meeting of the STS forum**

- 70 countries, regions and international organizations were represented
- A total of 600 participants: leading scientists (including 7 Nobel Laureates), policymakers (including 26 Ministers), top business executives and media leaders attended
- Main themes of this year’s discussions were: “Harmony with Nature” and “Innovation”

**Recommendation to the G8 Summit to be held in July 2008:**
A portion of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) should be used for joint research activity in developing countries, to harness the human potential of developing countries in addition to the financial power of developed countries. (The statement can be downloaded from www.stsforum.org)

“Science and technology is not an issue for scientists and engineers alone; everyone, including policymakers, business leaders and media leaders, should think of it as their own problem.”

Koji OMI, Member, House of Representatives; Founder and Chairman, STS forum, JP

Yasuo FUKUDA, Prime Minister of Japan

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**STS forum Timeline**

- **2004 NOV 14-16** Inaugural Meeting of the STS forum
  Kyoto, Japan
- **2005 SEP 11-13** Second Annual Meeting of the STS forum
  Kyoto, Japan
- **2006 MAR 6** Establishment of the STS forum as a Non-Profit Organization
  Kyoto, Japan
- **2006 SEP 10-12** Third Annual Meeting of the STS forum
  Kyoto, Japan
- **2007 OCT 7-9** Fourth Annual Meeting of the STS forum
  Kyoto, Japan
“For science and technology to be effective, communication, good governance and world trade are essential. Science and technology must be supported and used innovatively, and science and technology must be available to everyone.”

Ralph J. CICERONE, President, National Academy of Sciences (NAS), US

“Now is the time when we must break away from a society which favors mass production and mass consumption. In my view, we must develop a “new 21st Century system of production and consumption” that will be friendly to our global environment, and make the transition to a sustainable society.”

YASUO FUKUDA, Prime Minister of Japan

“The role of industry in curbing energy demand will be to offer technology-based solutions that help people to save energy in a convenient way.”

JOHAN M. VAN DER EIJK, Group CTO, Royal Dutch Shell PLC, NL

“While science and technology will continue to be employed to better the human condition, their promise can only be fully realized if their applications are compatible with protecting the environment. Though the STS forum is only four years old, it is already influencing international discussions on countering these environmental threats.”

JEROME I. FRIEDMAN, Nobel Laureate in Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US

“The new definition of peace is development. Research encourages development in our countries - from a technological, social, cultural and human point of view.”

ANNETTE SCHAVAN, Federal Minister of Education and Research, DE

“As a responsible member of international community, China stands ready to join hands with all countries to discuss the problems and to take actions.”

GANG WANG, Minister of Science and Technology, CH

“Science and technology should not control the fate of humanity; humankind must triumph over temptations posed by advancements in science and technology.”

MOSIBUDI MANGENA, Minister of Science and Technology, ZA.

“R&D is not an excuse to avoid decisions right now, and we know that to avoid climate change increasing, we have to take decisions now.”

ANNE LAUVERGEON, CEO, AREVA, FR

“Oil remains the prime energy source for transportation fuels with increasing demand, particularly from China and India, now placing additional pressure on current oil supplies. The need to diversify the fuel supply with more sustainable solutions is a large opportunity for agricultural-based alternatives.”

CHARLES D. HOLLIDAY, JR., Chairman and CEO, DuPont, Chairman, Council on Competitiveness, US

“There is a transition ahead that we haven’t seen in 100 years in terms of energy provision and we will need to grid our loins in order to deliver on this. It will require cooperation, collaboration, ingenuity and a great deal of simple hard work to achieve that.”

DAVID KINGS, Chief Scientific Advisor and Head of the Government Office for Science, UK

“The only way to support economic growth, which is an energy-dependent process with inevitable environmental pressures on our planet, is by implementing environment friendly solutions—but someone has to take care of the bill.”

HANY M. HELAL, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, EG

NEXT MEETING:
Fifth Annual Meeting of the STS forum
October 5-7, 2008
International Conference Center (ICC) Kyoto
Kyoto, Japan
(Participation is only upon invitation.)

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