

## Closing Address



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Good afternoon, everyone. As the President of the National Institute for Environmental Studies, NIES, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the keynote speakers, co-chairs of the symposium, chairs of panel discussions for report of their achievements in the preceding two-day workshops, and all participants for actively contributing to this symposium.

The symposium began with welcome addresses of Dr. Ichiro Kamoshita, Minister of the Environment, Japan, and Sir Graham Fry, British Ambassador to Japan, who represented the Japanese and UK sponsors/partners, respectively. Then, Dr. Shuzo Nishioka and Dr. Jim Skea, co-chairs of the symposium, stated the purpose of today's symposium, followed by three keynote presentations. Dr. Emil Salim, President's Council of Advisors (Former Minister of the Environment), Indonesia, pointed out key issues which should be considered together with low carbon society (LCS), paying special attention to the current and changing situations of developing countries. Mr. Mitsuhiro Yamashita, Executive Vice-President, Nissan Motor Co. Ltd., showed us hardware and software approaches to LCS from the viewpoint of motorized transport system. Mr. David Warrilow, Head of Climate, Energy and Ozone, UK Defra, outlined the up-to-date roadmap to LCS, stressing the significance of both technological innovations and lifestyle changes.

In the afternoon panel discussion, led by the same co-chairs, the achievements of the two-day workshop on four themes were reported by the workshop chairs, followed by questions and answers, and the participants' opinion poll of preferred answers to several questions prepared by the chairs. I was most impressed by the appropriate selection of the four themes, i.e. "behaviour change", "aligning with sustainable development", "investment" and "barriers and opportunities", because all of them need our urgent attention. Both the chairs' reviews and the participants' comments/questions were extremely meaningful and constructive. For instance, the chairs answered a participant's question about the reasons as to why nuclear energy was excluded from the source options in the workshop, and other participants suggested usefulness of cooperation with NGOs and information media to achieve LCS.

Since the contents of panel discussion were summarized very well by the co-chairs, I will briefly explain my idea about how we should develop our study from now on. In the NIES, we carry out four priority research programmes, and each of them targets a desired society, i.e. low carbon society, sound material-cycle society, nature friendly society, and safe, secure and healthy society. I think it is crucial to consider the interrelations among these desired societies. I was very happy to learn that the chairs of "aligning with sustainable development" workshop suggested a strong possibility of win-win relation between LCS and sustainable development. My hope is that further consideration will be given to this matter and this research group will take the lead in it.

Finally, I would like to again express my great appreciation to all participants and close this year's fruitful symposium. Thank you very much.