

## **1<sup>st</sup> Global Summit of Research Institute Leaders (RIL Summit 2012)**

### **Report**

RIKEN, JAPAN

#### **1. Objective**

An annual summit meeting of the heads of major research institutes around the world was proposed as a forum for discussing shared issues of concern related to scientific endeavors within the framework of the STS forum, and the first was held on October 6, 2012, at the Kyoto International Conference Center in Kyoto. The summit was held with three major purposes: (1) to serve as a forum to discuss the functions, changing circumstances, and management issues of the world's major research institutes; (2) to serve as an authoritative body on such subjects as the role of science and the role of the research institute within the nation as well as within the global community; and (3) to encourage the reinforcement of communication and collaboration among the leaders of the world's major research institutions.

In future years, the summit meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for maintaining dialogue on these and other important topics. Future summit meetings are scheduled to take place on the day before the Science and Technology Forum held every year in Kyoto.

#### **2. Outline of first summit meeting**

(1) Date and time: 2012 October 6, Sat, from 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm

(2) Venue: Kyoto International Conference Center, Kyoto JAPAN

(3) Participants:

For the first summit, 40 leaders were invited from institutes playing a major role in the national science and technology policy of mainly G20 countries (basically with research budgets allocated to the institute amounting to approximately 0.01% or more of GDP). Leaders of major public science and technology research institutes from 12 countries were invited. In principle, they were top leaders, but in several cases deputies were sent. (Cf. Section 3)

(4) Organization Secretariat 2012

RIKEN and National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)  
(JAPAN)

- (5) Topics
  - (a) Important research and issues confronting the operations of each institute
  - (b) Role of the institute in the national science and technology policy
  - (c) Role of science and of the institute toward the survival of humanity
- (6) Meeting format
  - (a) The summit was co-chaired by presidents Alain FUCHS (CNRS) and NOYORI Ryoji (RIKEN).
  - (b) Each participant was given about 5 minutes to cover the topics above, followed by some time for discussion.
  - (c) The report of the summit proceedings was presented in the STS forum 2012 parallel plenary session, "204B: Research Institutes Update".
- (7) Discussions at the Summit
  - 1. The necessity of brain circulation, and problem of brain drain
  - 2. The need for a balance between basic and applied research
  - 3. Means for directing appropriate funding to basic research
  - 4. Ways to integrate researchers from different cultures into a team
  - 5. The need for cooperation between universities and research institutes for the training of the next generation of researchers
- (8) The following Joint Statement drafted by the chairs was approved, and it was decided to hold the 2nd summit in 2013:

The expectations and demands placed on scientific research have changed significantly as global issues become more complex, and the world's major research institutes have in most cases found themselves charged with implementing national policies for scientific and technological innovation. But many problems, such as rapidly changing population demographics, diminishing natural resources, and the spread of contagious diseases, have grown into urgent, global concerns. In order to provide solutions to these issues it is widely recognized that international collaborations that transcends national and regional boundaries are necessary.

At the same time, it is historically evident that basic science has contributed immensely to every significant advance made by humankind. With the current focus on innovation and practical applications, there is a greater need than ever to secure the kind of scientific freedom that is absolutely essential for conducting basic scientific research.

As a venue for institute leaders to affirm the importance of collaborations between their organizations and an as forum to discuss these and other important topics related to scientific institutes, we propose that this summit takes place once per year. The second summit is scheduled to be held here in Kyoto on October 5, 2013. It will presumably focus on some specific topics of interest to all Research Organizations.



### 3. Invited institutions (40, from 24 countries and regions)

**16 institutes (\*)** from 12 countries participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> GSRL

*The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	(Australia)
Inter University Microelectronic Centre	(Belgium)
EMBRAPA	(Brazil)
National Research Council	(Canada)
Chinese Academy of Science	(China)
Academia Sinica	(Chinese Taipei)
*Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	(France)
*Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale	(France)
Institut Pasteur	(France)
*Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives	(France)
Fraunhofer Gesellschaft	(Germany)
Helmholtz Association	(Germany)
*Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Forderung der Wissenschaften	(Germany)
Leibniz Association	(Germany)
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research	(India)
*Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology	(Indonesia)
*The Italian National Research Council	(Italy)
Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and the Environment	(Italy)
Weizmann Institute of Science	(Israel)
*RIKEN	(Japan)
*National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology	(Japan)
Islamic World Academy of Sciences	(Jordan)
SIRIM Berhad	(Malaysia)
*Russian Academy of Science	(Russia)
Kurchatov Institute	(Russia)
*Agency for Science, Technology and Research	(Singapore)
The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research	(South Africa)
Korea Institute of Science and Technology	(South Korea)
Korea Research Council for Industrial Science and Technology	(South Korea)
*Institute for Basic Science	(South Korea)
*Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research	(Thailand)
*National Science and Technology Development Agency	(Thailand)
*Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey	(Turkey)
Brookhaven National Laboratory	(USA)
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	(USA)
National Institutes of Health	(USA)
*Oak Ridge National Laboratory	(USA)
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory	(UK)
Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology	(Vietnam)
European Organization for Nuclear Research	(Int'l. Org.)