

Welcome Address of the Chairman of LOC

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Welcome all of you to the 14th International Symposium on Earth tides.

It is my great honor to meet you in Mizusawa as chairman of the LOC of the Symposium. We realized, in rapid development of instrumentation and observations, such as VLBI and GPS, and also in development of new theories, the fields of Earth tide researches were widely expanded into related fields. The applications of tidal instrumentation to detection of crustal motions are well known. Superconducting gravimeters also are becoming powerful tools to investigate into the Earth's interior.

We experience many volcanoes and earthquakes since Japanese Islands is very active region. Many reports are brought to us in relation to tides. Also many reports are coming to you dealing with tides on the Moon and planets. We in Mizusawa had a centennial anniversary last year since starting the latitude observations and we stand on the turning point to the next century. NAO Mizusawa has joint SELENE project to research into the origin of the Moon and to possibly initiate new sciences on the Moon. Now in worldwide the techniques of geodesy are expanding to the space.

We discussed how to focus the symposium. After that we came to the point to propose to add new sessions to the symposium. One is 'tidal studies in tectonic active regions' and another is 'tide on plants' as you know. All sessions other than these, however, are sure bases for farther development of researches.

I, in behalf of LOC, express sincere thanks to the president of IAG and the president of 5th Commission of IAG and all colleagues, for their invaluable supports to the symposium. We announced in the circulars, papers presented in this symposium will be published in the Journal of Geodetic Society of Japan. I am now talking about details of it with colleagues of invited coeditors. I wish you discuss freely and obtain fruitful results through this symposium and also wish the great progress be brought to IAG.

Thank you.