

this field as well as learned societies concerned are very active in conducting such research and investigation. We have also a large number of scientists and engineers engaged in these research works and the results achieved through their collaboration are being utilized in measures for alleviating earthquake damage and disasters.

The disasters brought to nations along the Pacific coast by the recent Chilean earthquakes are still fresh in our memory. Whether mankind can be relieved from such unexpected disasters or not largely depends on the progress of research in this field of science, and the nations of the world look forward with great expectations to further achievements of the research.

It is a matter for congratulation for the scientific circles of Japan that under such circumstances the Second World Conference on Earthquake Engineering is now held here with a large number of scientists participating from various countries of the world. I believe the Conference will be a fruitful one, and hope that through presentation of papers on their recent research works and discussion the participating scientists will achieve the objectives of the Conference through presentation of papers on their recent works and full discussion among them.

Now we are in the warmest season of the year, and I sincerely wish that the participants from abroad will take good care of themselves to make their sojourn in this country a very pleasant one, and that they will have a better understanding of Japan and the Japanese, and will continue their cooperation in promoting international scientific exchange and contribute to the furtherance of friendly relations among nations of the world as well as to the welfare of mankind.

Last but not least may I express my heartfelt thanks to the scientists and scientific organizations concerned in Japan and elsewhere for their cooperation and the troubles they have taken in holding this World Conference in Japan.

ADDRESS BY:

Mr. Tomoo Sato, Deputy Director-General Prime, Minister's Office

It is a privilege for me to be here with you and offer my greetings at the Opening of the Second World Conference on Earthquake Engineering.

As is well-known, Japan is one of the seismic countries of the world. We have experienced a number of great earthquakes since olden times and have often suffered serious damage, and consequently one of the important policies of the Government has been, and is, to prevent and minimize damage and disasters from earthquakes. It is due to such experience, on the other hand, that research in earthquakes and