

earthquake engineering have long been developed in this country.

It is of great significance that the Second World Conference on Earthquake Engineering is now held in Japan, succeeding to the First Conference held in the United States four years ago, and the Japanese Government, taking the above fact into consideration, approved of the Science Council of Japan organizing this Conference, when the Council expressed its wish in 1958 to hold it in Japan.

Preparations for the Conference have been completed, and we have with us here a large number of representative scientists and engineers in the field of earthquake engineering from different part of the world, in addition to many scientists from Japan. I believe the scientific circles of Japan should be congratulated in having the Conference open with such a large attendance.

It is extremely regrettable that disastrous earthquakes have recently occurred in several countries, bringing about tremendous damage, and I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to extend my sincere sympathy to those who have fallen victims of these disasters.

It is my sincere wish that thanks to the cooperation of all the participants the Conference will attain its objectives and will bring a valuable addition to the achievements in the study of the way to protect mankind from earthquake disasters. I hope especially that the participants from abroad will be able to become better acquainted on this occasion with the people of Japan, the way we live, our cultural traditions and so forth, and that they will join their Japanese colleagues in further developing earthquake engineering and in promoting international cooperation and understanding among scientists.

**ADDRESS BY:**

**Mr. Hisaakira Kano, President, Association Supporting 2WCEE**

It is my great honor and privilege to have been given a few minutes to say a word of welcome and congratulations.

Japan is honored, firstly by being selected as a seat of this very important Second World Conference on Earthquake Engineering this year, and secondly by being able to welcome you, distinguished scientists and engineers in the field of seismology, to this earthquake country.

My greatest pleasure is that I have been entrusted with the work of the association supporting this Conference.

I am happy or proud to say, the business community as well as various scientific and engineering institutes of Japan have wholeheartedly cooperated and assisted me fully to support this Conference.