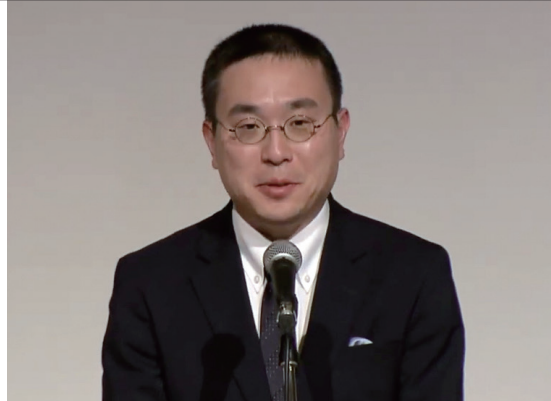


厚生労働省健康・生活衛生局総務課 課長補佐

江崎 治朗

Deputy Director, General Affairs Division,
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Jiro Ezaki M.D., Ph.D.



厚生労働省健康・生活衛生局総務課の課長補佐、江崎と申します。本日は共催者としてご挨拶させていただきます。室長の堀から挨拶文を預かりましたので、代読させていただきます。

本日はお招きいただき、誠にありがとうございます。本日、ここ広島でHICAREとその関係者の皆さまにより、HICARE被爆80年事業国際シンポジウムが開催されますことを、心よりお喜び申し上げます。

HICAREとその関係者の皆さまにおかれましては、来年の4月で設立35年という節目を迎えるとのことですが、長年にわたる、今日までの世界の放射線被ばく者医療への貢献と国際協力の推進にご尽力いただいておりますことに、深く敬意を表するとともに、厚く御礼申し上げます。

また、本日お集まりの広島県医師会をはじめとする医療関係者の皆さま、海外からお越しの放射線被ばく者医療の関係者の皆さまにおかれましては、日頃からそれぞれのお立場で真摯に放射線被ばく者医療にお取り組みいただいていることに、敬意を表します。

今年、原子爆弾の投下から80年目を迎え、被爆者の方々の平均年齢は86歳を超え、高齢化が進んでいます。こうした現状を踏まえ、厚生労働省といたしましては、被爆者の方々に寄り添いながら保健・医療および福祉にわたる総合的な支援を行っています。

具体的には、原爆症認定について、一日も早く認定がなされるよう、審査の一層の迅速化に取り組んでいくとともに、原爆死没者の追悼の場所を未来に引き継ぐための原爆供養塔の修繕など、被爆建物等の保存を進めること。被爆の実相を後世に継承していくため、情報の発信拠点である広島平和記念資料館における、こども向け展示室の増設に向けて、政府として必要な協力を行うことなど、支援の一層の充実を図ってまいります。

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Ezaki, and I am the Deputy Director of the General Affairs Division, Public Health Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare. I will now read the address from Director Ms. Hori on her behalf.

Thank you very much for inviting me here today. My name is Hori, and here in Hiroshima today, I would like to express my sincere congratulations on the convening of the International Symposium commemorating 80 years since the atomic bombing organized by HICARE together with all those involved.

I understand that HICARE and its related organizations will mark the milestone of their 35th anniversary this coming April. On this occasion, I would like to express my deepest respect and heartfelt gratitude for your many years of dedicated efforts and invaluable contributions to medical care for radiation-exposed persons around the world, as well as for your continued promotion of international cooperation in this field.

I would also like to extend my respect to all the medical professionals gathered here today, including members of the Hiroshima Prefectural Medical Association, as well as those involved in medical care for radiation-exposed persons who have traveled from overseas. I sincerely commend you for your steadfast and sincere commitment to addressing the medical needs of radiation-exposed persons, each in your respective roles on a daily basis.

This year marks 80 years since the atomic bombings. The average age of atomic bomb survivors has now exceeded 86 years, reflecting their advancing age. In light of this reality, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare remains firmly committed to standing close to the survivors and providing comprehensive support across healthcare, medical services, and welfare.

Specifically, we will continue to further enhance our support by working toward even greater acceleration in the review process for certification of atomic bomb-related illnesses, promoting the preservation of atomic bomb-related structures and sites, and providing necessary governmental support toward the expansion of the children's exhibition area in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. Through these efforts, we will continue to strengthen and enrich our support measures.

今回、被爆80年・HICARE設立35年事業として、「世界の放射線被ばく者に対する医療分野での国際協力の推進」をテーマに、日々、被ばく者の医療に向き合われている国内外の医療関係者が一堂に会し、シンポジウムや意見交換を行うことは大変意義深いものであると考えております。また、本日のシンポジウムでは2024年にノーベル平和賞を受賞された日本原水爆被害者団体協議会の箕牧様にもお越しいただき、貴重なお話を伺えることを大変感謝しております。本日の会合を契機として、今後、さらに取り組みの充実が図られることを期待いたしております。

最後になりますが、HICAREの関係者の皆さまと本日お集まりの皆さまのご健勝とご活躍を心より祈念いたしまして、私の挨拶とさせていただきます。

(司会) 江崎様、ありがとうございました。続きまして、来賓の皆さまからご挨拶を頂きます。初めに、広島大学学長、越智光夫様、お願い申し上げます。

I understand that, as part of 80 years since the atomic bombing and the 35th anniversary of HICARE, this symposium is being held under the theme of promoting international cooperation in the medical field for radiation-exposed persons worldwide. I am informed that medical professionals from Japan and abroad, who confront the medical care of radiation-exposed persons on a daily basis, will gather for symposium sessions and exchanges of views. I believe this to be an endeavor of profound significance. I sincerely hope that this meeting will serve as an opportunity to further strengthen and expand these efforts in the years to come. In addition, I understand that a representative of a Nobel Prize laureate will also be present to explain about their past endeavor.

In closing, I would like to express my heartfelt wishes for the continued good health and success of all those involved with HICARE, as well as everyone gathered here today. With those wishes, I would like to conclude my remarks. Thank you very much.

(MC) Thank you very much. Next, we would like to invite our distinguished guests to say a few words. First, we will hear from Dr. Mitsuo Ochi, President of Hiroshima University.