

Congratulatory Remarks

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Administrator

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Good morning, Honorable and distinguished guests, ladies and gentleman.

It is my honor and privilege to host "The 4th Asia-Pacific Congress of Sericulture and Insect Biotechnology"(APSERI) here in Busan. Indeed this city is known as one of the beautiful Korean harbors.

Taking this opportunity, my heart-felt appreciation goes to Professor Ki-Seob Kim, President of Pusan National University, Prof. Toru Shimada, President of Japanese Society of Sericultural Science, Dr. Yong-Ping Huang, Executive Editor of Archives of Insect Biochemistry and Physiology, Prof. Su-il Seong, honorable Senior Professor in sericultural science, Dr. Ho-Yong Park, President of Korean Society of Sericultural Science, Mr. Jang-Geon Yun, President of Korean Sericultural Association, and all presenters and participants from Korea and overseas for showing strong will towards active agricultural cooperation through biotechnology.

In 1970's, Korea was the 3rd greatest sericultural producer in the world. Although Korea had advanced sericultural techniques and resources, sericultural industry in Korea had declined due to wage inflation caused by industrial

development and weakened international competitiveness.

Despite of declining industry, we focused to the functionality of sericulture so, from cocoon production for textile fiber to functional material production for health such as food, cosmetics, and medical resources, we have developed high value added products.

In addition, bee-keeping industry, another typical insect agriculture in Korea has developed as new agricultural resources. We also have focused on developing functionality of insects such as utilization of insect pollinators, development of antibiotic from insect and development edible insect.

With this great importance, the insect industry in Korea is developing high value products through collaborative efforts with research. In this context, it is more significant to host APSERI in Korea.

In 2006, Rural Development Administration (RDA) hosted the first APSERI Congress in Sangju, which is considered as the city of silk. Now it is our second time to host APSERI in Korea. This conference would serve as a venue to share and discuss the recent research achievements of sericultural science and insect biotechnology in Asia-Pacific region including Korea. I strongly hope that this congress will lay a firm ground to further develop sericultural science and insect biotechnology industry.

Lastly, I would like to extend my gratitude to the all the organizers of this 4th APSERI congress for their valuable efforts in preparing for this events. I wish

for the great success of this event and a pleasant and memorable stay here in Korea.

Thank you very much.