

Ladies and gentlemen!

It is our pleasure to hold an entrance ceremony at this fall season. Today, we have enrolled 20 master course students and 28 Ph.D. course students. Among these are 31 students from 11 foreign countries. Congratulations on your admission to the graduate school of TUAT, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology. On behalf of TUAT, I heartily welcome all of you.

The basic principle of our university is "Mission-Oriented Research and Education giving Synergy in Endeavors toward a Sustainable Earth." It is abbreviated as MORE SENSE. As you know, we are now facing serious problems which are the negative legacies of the 20th century science and technology. They include environmental degradation, energy problems, global warming, and food supply problems due to explosive population growth. They threaten the very survival of humanity. There was once an effective material recycling process in play, but that cycle and balance has eroded. TUAT believes that to reconstruct that recycling process and to achieve sustainable society is its mission. TUAT has been devoting even more efforts to promote advanced researches so that we can contribute to solve serious problems mentioned above in accordance with its basic

philosophy "MORE SENSE." I hope that the researches you are going to start at TUAT are based on our basic principle.

TUAT enrolls more than 400 international students. Today, we have 31 new foreign students. The campus is truly open to the world and thus has a deeply international atmosphere. We can proudly boast that we have a little piece of the world. Globalization is now spreading rapidly and that the earth is becoming more like one community. But, globalization does not mean that all nations lose their individuality and become homogeneous. Each country has its own history and culture. Such identities must be inspired. As you may know, the new Japanese prime minister Yukio Hatoyama made an address at the 64th session of the general assembly of the United Nations. In his address, he stressed the importance of the concept of *yu-ai*, or "fraternity". That is, *yu-ai* is a way of thinking that respects one's own freedom and individual dignity while also respecting the freedom and individual dignity of others. I hope that the campus of TUAT will be really international filled with the concept of *yu-ai*, or "fraternity" and that each of you will play an important role of "bridge-building based on the *yu-ai*" between your country and Japan.

There is a common saying that Strike while the iron is hot, or, You can't teach an old dog new tricks. I believe that you embrace a dream to become an excellent researcher or scientist with high knowledge and skills in your own specialized area. Study hard from now. We have many outstanding faculty members. We can respond to your expectations. Pursue your dream and make it come true. I hope that you can become an excellent researcher or scientist with high knowledge and skills in your own specialized area and contribute towards the achievement of a sustainable earth.

I hope that your university life will be successful. And I trust that your stay in TUAT will prove to be both enjoyable and valuable to all of you. Study hard and enjoy your stay in Japan.

Thank you for your attention.