

Remarks at the FWorkshop Reception

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It is a great honor and pleasure to be asked by Dr. Fuchi to say a few words in front of such a distinguished group of scholars, government officials and representatives from the industry. In behalf of myself and all of the invited guests, I want to thank Dr. Fuchi and his staff for this splendid opportunity to come here and take part in this important event.

I of course also want to extend my congratulations to ICOT on their 10 years of accomplishments and contributions to knowledge processing and to a new generation of computer technologies. But even more importantly, it is ICOT's relentless pursuit of an ambitious vision and their determined efforts to share that vision and the fruits of their labor with the international community that has captured most of our admiration. In the United States, the computer research community has benefitted greatly from a number of collaborative arrangements under the joint sponsorship of ICOT and the National Science Foundation. Early on, we instituted a formal Visitors Program, which made it possible for the U.S. scientists to conduct long term research at ICOT. We have also held regular joint technical workshops and symposia and have seen many informal scientific visits and exchanges among the researchers from both countries.

I am aware that other countries - France, Great Britain, Germany, and Sweden for example - have had similar arrangements with ICOT and participated, perhaps even more successfully in some cases, in its activities over the years.

In a report of his recent visit to ICOT, Professor Woody Bladsoc of the University of Texas pointed out that one of ICOT's valuable assets is its willingness to listen to and make use of the scientific expertise from over the world. I believe that this asset is an important hallmark of this institution and it has indirectly contributed to the many successes that ICOT has enjoyed in the course of their 10-year project. As an NSF officer and a member of the scientific community, I wish to express our sincere appreciations to ICOT and to the architect behind it - the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, for their leadership, generous support and their commitment to the advancement of science on a global level.

With Dr. Fuchi's permission, I'd like now to ask my colleagues to join me in proposing a toast to our Japanese hosts and friends: We wish the 5th Generation Computer Project continued success and, to borrow Dr. Fuchi's own words, ICOT to take their 10 years of labor of love into the launching of a even more exciting era ahead. Best wishes from all of us and peace, health and prosperity to evryone.