



*Greeting for Reception of ICSSC-21 at Sankei-En on April 18, 2003*

Takashi Iida, General Chair

Good afternoon and Konbanwa, ladies and gentlemen. Konbanwa is a greeting word in Japanese using in the late afternoon. I am Takashi Iida, General Chair of ICSSC-21.

On behalf of the organizing committee, I would like to thank you very much for your participation to Colloquium, Conference and Exhibit, and, at this time, I would like to congratulate you all for the good jobs done by you throughout the period of time.

Thanks to your participation from overseas as well as from Japan, we could hold the 21st International Communications Satellite Systems Conference and Exhibit (ICSSC-21) here in Yokohama, despite the unprecedented international difficult situation we are facing nowadays.

According to the secretariat, the number of attendees is about 350 and about 3000 people visited to the 93 booths. Tomorrow is Saturday, so I hope more 3000 people will visit us. The number of presentation will be 200. Therefore, I believe we mostly succeeded in this conference now. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Throughout the conference until today, I have been very much impressed by the enthusiastic presentations of the results of each participant's research in various fields followed by earnest discussions, and, I could not but think of the importance of meeting and gathering together for the progress of science and technologies. I do hope that, in this important gathering to learn and discuss, you will renew old and establish new friendship aimed at even closer international cooperation.

The garden here we are is called "Sankei-En" and was founded by a wealthy silk trading businessman, Sankei Hara, who was known as a lover of art. It was opened to the public in 1906. The house we are in is called Kakushokaku, built in 1902, and is the former residence of Sankei Hara.

Please relax and enjoy yourselves in this completely traditional Japanese environment.

Thank you very much.