

Opening Remarks Miyagi Pref. Board of Education

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Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of the Miyagi Prefectural Board of Education, I would like to say a few words of greeting. I appreciate that this international symposium is being held here. We thank Mr. Masayuki Inoue, the Director General of the Science and Technology Policy Bureau from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science & Technology, and also distinguished guests and participants who have come all the way to Sendai despite their busy schedules. Since last March, the Miyagi Prefectural Board of Education and the Miyagi University of Education have planned multiple projects together, and this symposium is one of those projects. We think this marks a new page for our relationship in the 21st century. As Mr. Inoue mentioned earlier, in April 2002, the new course of the study was implemented at elementary and junior high schools. In providing such education, environmental issues cannot be overlooked. There are various environmental issues on the global scale, and there are various proposals regarding environmental issues, and there are many problems to be solved regarding environment education. We think it's very important for students to heighten their interests in environmental issues of waste and in environmental concepts based on global issues that are very close to themselves.

During this symposium, through the lecture presentations and discussion, I hope that a specific direction for environmental education or environmental education support can be determined. I would like to conclude my speech by expressing my respect to all of you here this attending this symposium, and also to those who conducted research in education. I hope this symposium will be very fruitful for all the participants. Thank you very much.

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