Opening Address

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Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

It is my great pleasure to give a welcome greeting to open this international workshop, “Frontiers of Quantum Physics”. On behalf of the Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics, I would like to express my cordial welcome to all of you, in particular, to the participants who came from abroad.

As was explained by Professor Ninomiya just now, this workshop is hosted by the Okayama Institute for Quantum Physics and financially supported by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Priority Areas with the title “Dynamics of Superstring and Field Theories”, the representatives of which are Professors Ninomiya and Kawai.

I am very happy that the Yukawa Institute can participate in this rather unique international workshop, which covers a variety of subjects in a very wide range of fields, for instance, quantum teleportation, quantum information and even the quantum theory of DNA. It is really very suitable that this type of workshop is held in this Yukawa Institute, since this institute has always emphasized interdisciplinary fields and pioneering new fields for the past half century. I hope this will be a successful workshop.

I should add an important comment. The main purpose of this workshop is, of course, of a scientific nature. But another purpose is to celebrate the opening of the Okayama Institute for Quantum Physics, as explained by Professor Ninomiya. Actually, this new institute was founded quite recently through the great efforts of Professor Ninomiya and others.

I would now like to propose to add yet another purpose for this workshop, that is to celebrate Ninomiya-san’s 60th birthday. Actually, he was born on July 17th, 1944. So, precisely speaking, the 60th year was the last year. But it is not too late now, because this is still the same academic year in Japan. So it would be suitable, in particular, to dedicate the banquet of this workshop to the celebration of his 60th birthday. I hope this idea is supported by everyone (applause by audience). Thank you. The presentation of the details of Ninomiya-san’s academic history will be postponed to the banquet.

I conclude my address by wishing to all of you a very fruitful meeting and a happy and enjoyable stay in Kyoto.

Thank you.