For immediate release

Two New Wins for Japan’s First Port of Call

24 July 2013, Yokohama, JAPAN:

The International Stereotactic Radiosurgery Society has selected Yokohama, Japan, as the site for its 12th International Stereotactic Radiosurgery Society Congress (ISRS) in 2015. The venue will be PACIFICO Yokohama, the flagship facility of Yokohama, and Japan’s largest convention complex.

Dr. Motohiro Hayashi, from the Tokyo Women’s Medical University and Chair of the Local Organizing Committee for ISRS 2015, shared that Yokohama was able to win the bid over Hong Kong because of two reasons. One, Japan will hold the Congress with other related meetings to increase the number of attendees, and two, Japan has recovered quickly from the 3.11 Earthquake and tsunami, and has a living knowledge of how to decrease the dangers of radiology from nuclear plants.

Dr. Hayashi added; “Japan has played an integral part in the development of stereotactic radiosurgery over the last few decades. Hosting the 12th ISRS meeting in Yokohama will be a great opportunity to establish a milestone in achieving more cooperation among the specialists worldwide.” He is eagerly anticipating to “Meet the Experts”, which is the theme of the congress, and to discuss and navigate the future of this cutting-edge medical technology.

Dr. Hayashi is Vice President of the Radiosurgery Committee of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS) and a member of the Program Committee of the 16th quadrennial meeting of the World Society for Stereotactic Functional Neurosurgery (WSSFN). He is also founder of the Asian Gamma Knife Academy.

Japan is recognised as a leader in stereotactic radiosurgery in the Asia Oceania region with 55 Gamma Knife centres, 25 Cyber Knife centres and 7 particle radiotherapy centres across the country. In addition, there are various types of IMRT therapeutic apparatuses installed, and approximately 10,000 neurosurgeons and radiation oncologists.

Another win for Yokohama is the Asian-Pacific Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (A-PHPBA) Regional Congress in 2017. Japan bid against Indonesia, and won by a majority vote.

The Congress will be co-hosted by the A-PHPBA and the Japanese Society of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery (JSHBPS). The A-PHPBA is part of the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA) which originates back to 1978. JSHBPS was established in 1988, and currently has over 3,500 members. With the large membership in Japan, the Congress is expected to attract over 3,000 researchers from in and out of the country.
Yokohama is deeply involved in the medical field, which includes hepato-pancreato-biliary research. The city’s bayside district is a world-leading center for regenerative medicines and other life science fields, serving as home to the RIKEN Yokohama Institute and numerous other companies and research facilities. The area has been designated by the Japanese government as a “Comprehensive International Strategic Zone for the Life Sciences” as part of a national development project, and the district is expected to serve as a center of new development for the future of medicine. Cutting-edge research being carried out in this district has resulted in Yokohama City University’s successful creation of human liver cells from iPS cells and other such accomplishments.

Kana Nomoto from the Yokohama CVB added: “Winning ISRS 2015 and A-PHPBA 2017 is testament to Yokohama’s pull as the nation’s centre of innovation and research. We are proud that our city’s “Japan’s First Port of Call” image is strong and gives confidence to association planners around the world.

Yokohama is accessible from both Haneda and Narita Airports. Boasting of more than 1,500 weekly flights from 40 countries and direct flights from over 100 cities around the world, Yokohama is a successful convention city, well known for its ability to attract large attendance number to its conventions. PACIFICO Yokohama is the city’s largest all-in-one convention complex with a plenary capacity of 5,000. 13 hotels which are a 15-mins walk away from the centre, offer some 3,400 rooms.

Note to Editors:

The Yokohama Convention & Visitors Bureau is a non-profit organization funded mainly by the City of Yokohama. In addition to motivating and supporting the Japanese association community to bid for conferences to Yokohama, it also provides assistance for business events planners considering Yokohama for their upcoming events.

Photos to accompany this media release are available from:

http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/convention/media-center/

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