

press release - For immediate release

## **Human Genome Meeting 2018 in Yokohama**

11 May 2017, Yokohama, JAPAN:

The 22nd Human Genome Meeting (HGM2018) will be held in Yokohama in March of next year. The decision was announced at this year's conference in February in Barcelona, Spain. This will mark the second time for Japan to host the conference after it was held in Kyoto in 2005.

The conference will take place in PACIFICO Yokohama and will attract some 400 participants from 39 countries/regions. The choice of Yokohama has attracted much attention from both domestic and international genome researchers alike.

The event is organized by the Human Genome Organization (HUGO). The theme of HGM2018 will be "Genome data and Health." HUGO originally launched HGM as an annual meeting focused on the Human Genome Project. In its current format, a broad spectrum of participants from public research organizations and pharmaceutical companies around the globe will be presenting and discussing a variety of topics related to genome research.

Dr. Piero Carninci, Deputy Director of RIKEN Center for Life Science Technologies has been appointed as a chair for HGM2018. RIKEN, Japan's largest comprehensive research institution, has a Yokohama campus and some of the world's most advanced research on life science is being conducted there. Carninci is also a council member of HUGO. For many years he has made exceptional contributions to the development of genome research, both here and abroad. He has won a number of national awards such as the Biotec Award, the NISTEP Researchers award and the HUGO Chen Award of Excellence.

Reacting to the announcement, Carninci said, "I am pleased to have such an important meeting to be placed in Japan again. It's an honor to have been selected as a local chair for HGM, and I hope to use my network to attract researchers inside and outside of Japan and contribute to its further expansion of Genome Science.

Genomic research in Japan plays a central role in a number of international projects. It is expected that holding HGM2018 in Japan will greatly contribute to the development of world genome research.

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