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March 5, 2020

Dai Houliang

President

Council of the Chemical Industry and Engineering Society of China (CIESC)

Dear President Dai Huliang:

Thank you for your letter of February 20, 2020.

It is clear that China has collectively mobilized efforts to stop the coronavirus. News on the progress of containment measures in China is reported on daily in Japan.

In Japan, over 1000 people have been infected with the coronavirus, and there have so far been 12 deaths. Most of those people infected have been linked to the cruise ship, the majority of them being elderly. Recently, the country has been struggling with the rising number of cases in which the routes of infection cannot be identified.

The SCEJ had scheduled the 85th Annual Meeting and International Chemical Engineering Symposia for March, but on February 21, officially canceled the events to prevent further spread of the coronavirus. All events exceeding 50 attendees have also been canceled.

On February 26, the Japanese government declared "now" to be the time to take action against the spread of the coronavirus, and implemented preventative measures, such as the cancellation of events involving large numbers of people, the closing of schools, and requests to business to cooperate with staggered commuting times and having employees work from home.

Concerning containment of the coronavirus, we believe that a united worldwide effort, and the securing of close communication to ensure the timely execution of solutions, are of utmost importance.

The SCEJ promises continued cooperation with the CIESC in all areas and wishes the CIESC continued success.

Sincerely,

Tadafumi Adschiri

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President

The Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan

Toshinori Sekido

Vice-President, President-elect

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The Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan