

MESSAGE FROM PROFESSOR HEE-KIT WONG



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are all saddened by the suffering and tragic loss of lives caused by the earthquake and ensuing tsunami in the northeastern region of Japan.

However, I am pleased to inform you that the Combined Congress of the Spine and Paediatric Sections of the APOA will proceed as planned on 1-4 June in Gifu City, Japan.

Gifu City in Gifu Prefecture has not been affected by the earthquake. There is also no danger from radiation as the venue is very far away from the damaged nuclear plants in Fukushima.

I was recently in Kochi in the south of Japan attending the Central Japan Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology Meeting (7-8 April 2011). Life went on as usual there. I felt safe.

The preparation for the meeting in Gifu City is proceeding smoothly. Professor Katsuji Shimizu (Congress Chairman for Spine) and Professor Makoto Kamegaya (Congress Chairman for Paediatric Orthopaedics) have put together an excellent programme, details of which are available at <http://www.cs-oto.com/apoa-sp2011/>

I strongly encourage you to attend this meeting. I also urge those who have planned to attend not to cancel your plans. This is a time for us in the Asia Pacific region to stand united and support our Japanese colleagues who have worked very hard to prepare for this meeting.

I look forward to your attendance and active participation at this meeting!

Professor Hee-Kit Wong
Chairman, Spine Section of the APOA

Professor and Head, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery,
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore

Picture taken at the 116th Central Japan Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology meeting held in Kochi, Japan, April 6, 2011

(From left) Prof. Hiroshi Yamamoto, Prof. Hee-Kit Wong, Prof. Katsuji Shimizu

