

Remarks by Ambassador HAYASHI Hajime
for the Kyoto Prize at Oxford 2022
at Oxford University Museum of Natural History on 10th May, 2022

Vice-Chancellor Richardson, Professor Woods, and Distinguished Guests,

It gives me great pleasure to attend the Kyoto Prize at Oxford Laureates' Leadership Panel and dinner in this beautiful setting this evening.

I would like to express my deepest admiration for the great achievements of the three 2021 Kyoto Prize Laureates, Professor Roeder, Professor Yao, and Professor Latour, and to convey my heartfelt congratulations to them. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation for the unstinting support by the Inamori Foundation and the outstanding contribution made by those who were involved in organising this prestigious event, returning in person after two years.

Japan and the UK have enjoyed a long and successful history of academic collaboration, and the Kyoto Prize, founded in 1985, has truly played an important role in this collaboration. There are many examples of the multi-layered Japan-UK academic exchange that continues to this day. Last Thursday Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida had a meeting with Prime Minister Boris Johnson at Downing 10, and the two leaders agreed to further deepen our research and innovation ties to develop cutting edge technologies of the future.

Indeed, through international collaboration in a number of key fields, our two countries continue to create innovative technologies and research aimed at tackling some of the major global challenges. I believe that the University of Oxford will continue to be a great partner with Japanese academics and a world leading hub in the pursuit of knowledge for benefit of humanity. I am confident that this Kyoto Prize at Oxford event will help to further promote Japan-UK collaboration in the field of Advanced

Technology, Basic Sciences, and Arts and Philosophy, leading to future benefits for our global society.

I would like to conclude by paying tribute once again to the three 2021 Kyoto Prize Laureates and every individual person involved in today's celebrations.

Thank you for your kind attention.