



# Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)

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Dear participants of 7<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Uremia Research and Toxicity,

We at the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) have seen the terrible devastation caused in Tohoku (northern Japan) by the earthquake, tsunami and the nuclear plant's accident on March 11, 2011. Throughout all of this, we have also been given great consolation as a nation from the immense outpouring of goodwill from around the world.

While the devastation in Tohoku was indeed unimaginable, most areas of Japan remain completely untouched, and life is going on as normal. These unaffected regions are, however, also suffering from a sudden decrease in the number of international meetings and events. We are deeply concerned that this will not only directly impact Japan's tourism industry, but also our industry partners worldwide.

Nagoya, where 7<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Uremia Research and Toxicity is scheduled to meet from May 12<sup>th</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup> 2011, is more than 400 km away from the region hit by the earthquake and nuclear power plants in Fukushima, and has not been affected at all. Nagoya itself has no threat of supply chain interruptions. All major international airports throughout Japan are working as normal, and Nagoya's rail links to other major cities in Japan are also running a standard service. In addition, the convention facilities and hotels in Nagoya continue to be capable of hosting your meeting without any difficulties.

The Japan National Tourism Organization, as well as Nagoya Convention & Visitors Bureau, will disseminate the accurate information regarding to the situation in Nagoya and do our best to support 7<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Uremia Research and Toxicity delegates in Nagoya. We feel that continuing to plan for your meeting in Nagoya will offer encouragement not only to the citizens of Nagoya, but to those throughout our nation.

If you have any concerns as to the situation in Japan, and any potential impact on your event, please feel free to contact us at the Japan National Tourism Organization and Nagoya Convention & Visitors Bureau. We are here to help you, and very much look forward to welcoming you and your delegates to Japan in 2011.

Sincerely,

Tadatoshi Mamiya

President

Japan National Tourism Organization