

**Remarks by H.E. MURATA Takashi,
Ambassador of Japan to Finland,
“Online Signing Ceremony of MOU between Oulu
University Hospital and Tohoku University Hospital”
on 19th October 2020**

On this memorial occasion on signing of MOU between Oulu University Hospital and Tohoku University Hospital, I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations and sincere respect to Dr. Luoma, Dr. Tominaga and all of your team members dedicated to this landmark agreement.

I would also like to congratulate Mayors, Ms. Laajala and Ms. Kohri, for welcoming further expansion of your long-time cordial relations of both cities.

We enjoy long healthy life expectancy in Japan and Finland. It is achieved by the untiring efforts by medical institutions of both countries. I am highly convinced that the combination of medical technologies through the collaboration of medical institutions of both countries will keep us at the forefront of well-being society.

Last year marked the 100th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Finland. This year is the first year of our next 100 years to come. This MOU signed in this milestone year is highly significant in not only bringing further prosperity to both hospitals and cities but also taking a bold step forward a new century.

Facing new challenges requiring a lot of reforms due to the COVID-19, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the profound bilateral relations we have developed.

I conclude my remarks by wishing for the further success of both hospitals and cities as well as expressing our commitment to working together with you.