From March 12 to 14, 2019, JCCP jointly hosted a technical conference themed on “Performance Improvement of Petroleum Downstream Industries” as a joint undertaking with the Organization of the Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) and the Kuwait Ministry of Oil. The conference was held at the JW Marriot Hotel in Kuwait in the presence of H.E. Sheikh Talal Nasser Al-Adhabi Al-Sabah, Acting Undersecretary of the Kuwait Ministry of Oil, and Mr. Takashi Ashiki, Japanese Ambassador to Kuwait, and was attended by some 100 participants. Four key figures gave commemorative speeches in the opening ceremony, including the two above-mentioned guests of honor, H.E. Mr. Abbas A. Naqi, Secretary General of OAPEC, and Mr. Tsuyoshi Nakai, CEO of JCCP.

The technical sessions that were held on the 12th and 13th featured 19 presentations divided into five themes and included presentations by five Japanese speakers. After each presentation, an active Q&A took place with the audience, who displayed strong interest in the topics presented. The names of the Japanese speakers (delegated conference members) and the titles of their presentations are as follows (in random order; without honorifics).

1) Shigeru Sudo (Tokyo Heisei University)
   “Reviewing Various Developments in Oil Industry”

2) Hitoshi Iseda (Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.)
   “Advanced Clean Combustion Technology for Petroleum Residue Firing”

3) Masami Funayama (JCCP)
   “Mission Control (Project Control) for Operation & Maintenance”

4) Toru Yoneyama (Chiyoda Corporation)
   “Chiyoda’s Solution Services for O&M”

5) Masato Yamashita (Kyoto Materials)
   “Rust Science and Reactive Polymer for Corrosion Protection of Steel Structures in Various Plant Environments”

On the 14th, the conference members visited the KISR Research Petroleum Center and toured the center’s pilot oil refining plant and research facilities.
**Background and objectives of cooperation with OAPEC**

JCCP’s relationship with OAPEC was initially prompted by an approach made by the OAPEC Secretariat regarding the possibility of mutual cooperation with JCCP in May 2009. OAPEC and JCCP thereafter agreed to enter into a cooperative relationship and signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) to that effect in 2010 in Tunisia in the presence of Mr. Akihiro Ohata, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and H.E. Mr. Amre Moussa, Secretary General, the League of Arab States. Since establishment of this relationship, the two organizations have jointly hosted a number of technical conferences, the fifth of which has just been held.

(OAPEC member countries: 10 countries, including Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Libya, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Algeria, Iraq, Syria and Egypt)

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Hosts and guests at the opening ceremony

Second from right: Mr. Ashiki, Japanese Ambassador to Kuwait
Sixth from right: Mr. Nakai, CEO of JCCP

Japanese speakers on their visit to KISR

(Takaya Suzuki, Technical Cooperation Dept.)