Special Message

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H.H. Dr. Turki was born to the royal family of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He has served as Chairman of the Supervisory Committee of the National Science and Technology Plan and other important posts, and plays a central role in the development of science and technology in Saudi Arabia. Possessing a deep understanding of Japan, Dr. Turki has also supported JCCP activities in Saudi Arabia over many years. On occasion of JCCP's 30th anniversary, His Highness has graciously complied with our request to receive a commemorative message from him, as presented below.

I am honored to be invited to write a message on the 30th anniversary of Japan Cooperation Center, Petroleum (JCCP). In June of 2008 I had the privilege to visit Japan and the JCCP headquarters on the invitation of the JCCP. During my stay in Japan, the JCCP arranged for me a visit to the Petroleum Refining Research & Technology Center at Japan Energy Corporation; the Earth Remote Sensing Data Analysis Center (ERSDAC); Toyota Motor Corporation; and the national Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). I was delighted by the fruitful discussions that I had and impressed by technology that I saw.

During my visit we also discussed the cooperation between KACST and JCCP, resulting in a project, started in 2006, to utilize the Interferometry Synthetic Radar (InSAR) to map surface deformation in Saudi Arabia. I am glad to say that the Saudi researchers got some training on InSAR data analysis in Tokyo. By the end of 2008 the InSAR project was completed and we started another endeavor to map three dimensional deformation below the earth surface utilizing Accurately Controlled, Routinely Operated, Signal System (ACROSS). Its aim was to complement the first project and to develop a complete system for monitoring surface and subsurface deformation. In 2012 KACST and JCCP jointly organized an international workshop and invited local, regional and international speakers to jointly present their scientific achievements on surface and subsurface monitoring. Participant were invited to visit the ACROSS field site and they were amazed by the achievements.

Looking back I believe that the cooperation between KACST and JCCP has been very fruitful and will have an impact on future surface and subsurface monitoring technologies. I also believe the results will serve Japan and Saudi Arabia and strengthen our cooperation ties.