



April 13, 2011

Dear Attendants of

The 16th World Congress of International Society for Criminology,

We at the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) have seen the terrible devastation caused in Tohoku (northern Japan) by earthquakes and tsunami 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.

Kobe, where The 16th World Congress of International Society for Criminology is scheduled to meet from Aug 5th to Aug 9th 2011, is more than 600 km away from the region hit by the earthquake and nuclear power plants in Fukushima, and has not been affected at all. Kobe itself has no threat of rolling electricity blackouts or supply chain interruptions. All major international airports throughout Japan are working as normal, and Kobe's rail links to other major cities in Japan are also running a standard service. In addition, the convention facilities and hotels in Kobe continue to be capable of hosting your meeting without any difficulties.

The Japan National Tourism Organization, as well as Kobe Convention Bureau, will disseminate the accurate information regarding to the situation in Kobe and do our best to support The 16th World Congress of International Society for Criminology delegates in Kobe. We feel that continuing to plan for your meeting in Kobe will offer encouragement not only to the citizens of Kobe, 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 Kobe Convention 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



Japan Convention Bureau (JNTO)