

バンケット挨拶

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the banquet named “Japan night”. The Congress has only one day left, tomorrow, and I hope all of you to enjoy this evening. The plan of this evening has been worked out for quite long time and it took for as long as one year to finalize the plan both by the Social committee, of which chair is Professor Chisato Nagata, Gifu University, and by the Marketing committee, of which chair is Professor Akiko Tamakoshi, Hokkaido University. I believe they have developed fascinating program and all of you will certainly enjoy this banquet.

The dress I’m wearing this evening is Japanese traditional one, especially for summer festival. *Yukata*, is the name in Japanese and is good for hot and humid summer in Japan. I have *Geta* on, which is also traditional outdoor shoes made of woods. I’m going to play dance, in Japanese “*Bon-odori*” with you later. There are two titles of *Bon-odori* planned, “*Tanko-bushi*” and “*Tokyo ondō*”. And I’m happy because *Tanko-bushi* is a famous folk song of my home district, Fukuoka. The detailed explanations about the *Bon-odori* and the folk songs are going to be presented later.

I hope all of you to refresh in this banquet, and prepare for the last day’s fruitful presentations and discussions.

Thank you.