

## A Message from Japanese Society

It is a great regret that I cannot participate in the meeting of regional group, and I leave this message to explain the Japanese views on this matter.

Japan has a medical informatic society named as Japan Association for Medical Informatics. (JAMI~~A~~). It has approximately 1,000 members. Because of short time, I could not bring this matter officially to the board meeting of our society. Therefore, the following are my personal view and those of some members to whom I consulted.

Generally speaking, we understand the needs of forming a regional group to promote medical informatics in the region and we are very grateful for the efforts of Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Association of Medical Informatics in Singapore and Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics, who took initiatives to this direction. If the regional group is formed, Japan Society will support it in every way possible.

However, we have to take the following considerations as well before we formally start the regional body. They are


1. The societies of the countries in the region are sufficiently mature to support the activities of the regional body.
2. The activity of regional group must be coordinated with those of international activities to avoid duplicate efforts.

I, therefore, recommend that

1. To set up a preparatory committee at this meeting to form the regional group
2. To nominate the chairman of the preparatory committee, who will work to prepare the formation
3. To have the next meeting in Beijing in October 1989 and decide the creation of the regional body, if the preparation is completed by that time.
4. To make the regional body as a committee organization closely related to IMIA

If any questions arise regarding IMIA, I delegated Mr. Ouyang, Trustee of IMIA, my function as president and he will answer the questions which may arise.

I wish you a successful meeting.

  
Shigekoto Kaihara, M.D.  
Trustee Japan Society  
for Medical Informatics