Review of the Video Presentation Screening

The video presentations were separated into several groups according to the location of the applicants' affiliated universities, putting regional characteristics into consideration. The Competition Office assigned the judges from affiliations which were different from those of the applicants within the groups. The Competition Office aggregated various comments from the video screening judges and summarized them as follows.

The name of this Competition entails that the presenters must finish their presentations in 3 minutes. Although this is not an easy task, it is what makes this Competition so special. Generally, in terms of comprehension and content, the presenters demonstrated a good understanding about their research fundamentals and being able to convey the ideas to the audience. In terms of engagement and communication, the presenters demonstrated various levels of language, enthusiasm and body language. Unfortunately, some of the presenters used no/multiple/mirror-reversed slides, or exceeded the presentation time limit, etc. Not many of the presenters spoke too quickly and/or clearly read from a script. What set apart the best presentations were: (1) a simple slide in which all of its elements were large enough to be easily seen; (2) a story that was logically organized and easy to follow; (3) an explanation of the importance of the research that was specific yet readily understandable for everyone; and (4) clear pronunciation and non-excessive intonation and body motions. Furthermore, it is also necessary to introduce your research questions as early as possible, so that the audience can expect what you are going to talk about.

All in all, it was a real joy to see so much energy and enthusiasm: both for science and for communication. Bravo to all of those who participated in the Competition and best of luck in achieving a bright future as communicators of science!