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Opening Remarks

There is no question that "Health and Safety in Construction" is one of the most important matters in execution of a project. However, it is in relatively recent years that this has been taken up as an important matter. Measures to be taken in connection with Health and Safety will not only vary depending on the type and scale of the structure, various conditions of meteorology, topography and geology, earthquakes, and environment, as well as construction period and construction cost, but also to a great extent on the circumstances in the country where the structure is to be built.

Therefore, in order to establish a scientific system regarding Health and Safety, it will be necessary to study the conditions prevailing in the various regions, especially any problematic points which may exist. That is probably why a workshop on health and safety was held some time ago in Europe, and now, one is being held in Asia. We are very happy about this. I wish to sincerely thank the members of the Scientific Committee of the Workshop who have come so far to attend, Prof. Sikkel, the Chairman of Working Commission IV and Prof. Beedle, Honorary Member of IABSE. I am sure that through the efforts of the abovementioned gentlemen, invited guests from various European and Asian countries, special lecturers on the Japanese side, and the members of the Organizing Committee, this Workshop will produce excellent results.

Health and Safety in Construction has been nominated as a topic for a seminar at the Twelfth Congress of IABSE to be held in Vancouver, Canada in 1984, and the present Workshop is an event which will provide an impetus for a seminar at the Twelfth Congress. This Twelfth Congress to be held in Canada will have a special, important significance, and it is hoped that as many of you as possible will attend.

The Tenth Congress of IABSE was held in Tokyo in 1976. There has been no other IABSE event held in Asia up to the present Workshop. It is sincerely hoped that this will be a stimulant for researchers and engineers of Asia in structural engineering to join IABSE so that various colloquia and symposia of IABSE will come to be held in Asia.

IABSE is an acronym for International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering. The word "Bridge" in the name is of special importance. The Association has been continuously engaged in building bridges of structural engineering and friendship between regions and between countries, endeavoring for progress and improvement in structural engineering through worldwide cooperation. It is requested that continued efforts be made for even greater development and success of IABSE.

Prof. Dr. M. Kokubu

Chairman, Japanese Group of IABSE



Health and Safety as a Research Subject

Working Commission IV of IABSE dealing with Construction Management put in 1980 the subject: Health and Safety on her program to be studied in the following years.

My first paper was discussed during the London-meeting of WG IV, September 1981. It consisted only of some slogans of safety-actions and some questions which could be of interest.

The conclusion of that meeting was to try to held a workshop in Europe to have discussions with some experts in this field.

So my second paper "Health and Safety at Work" was the key to a discussion on April 30th, 1982 during a one-day meeting in Zürich. These discussions were very fruitful and MORT was brought in as well as a discussion of costs of accidents and costs of measures of safety.

After this meeting came my third paper: 'Health and Safety in the Building Industry', which was brought in the colloquium in Tokyo, Japan, August 31th, 1982.

This colloquium was followed by a Symposium on September 1st, 1982 also in Tokyo. On this Symposium a report was made of the colloquium of the previous day.

In these proceedings we brought together the report of this colloquium, the four Japanese papers, and the five lectures held by European, American and Japanese experts in the field of Health and Safety on Construction Sites.

We think "Health and Safety in Construction" Tokyo, Aug/Sept 1982, will be a starting point for further discussions in this problem field.

We have to thank all our friends of the Japanese Group of members of IABSE to enable us to come to their country to have discussions about these subjects. We have to thank them for the perfect way of organizing these days and for their worthfull contributions to our discussions.

Now we go further to the Symposium during the IABSE-Congres in 1984, Vancouver. We hope on further contributions from IABSE-members and fruitfull discussions.

The subject proved to be of great importance for our whole Industry and for the circumstances our workers have to operate on our building sites.

We hope our work will bring us more safety in our beautiful field of work.

Prof.ir. L.P. Sikkel
Chairman Scientific Committee Workshop on Health and Safety
Chairman Working Group IV, IABSE
September 1982

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