

MESSAGE

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This year's 43rd Annual Scientific Meeting focuses on the theme "COVID-19 Pandemic: Learning from the Past, Coping with the Present, and Moving to the Next."

It has been more than a year that the whole nation, including the rest of the world, has been coping with the tremendous impacts of COVID-19 pandemic. While it is true that this pandemic has revealed the country's existing gaps and problems in the health sector, the government, our doctors, scientists, and experts have stepped up efforts to meet the continuing complex challenges.

The pandemic has affected almost all sectors of the society, hence the discussions in this annual scientific meeting will tackle related issues and concerns such as the connection among food, environment, and health, viral evolution, dynamics, and modeling interventions, systems approach to address present-day hazards, impact of the pandemic to basic and higher education, balancing the economy and health, and health systems response and preparedness.

As we continue to fight this pandemic, may we all learn from the "weight of the past" and use evidence-based action plans and strategies to cope with the "push of the present" for even now we can sense the "pull of the future".

Let us all move forward and build a better future for the next generation with science and technology as our strong base.

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