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Press Release

20th International Biology Olympiad (IBO2009 Tsukuba) Announces Medalists

Ibaraki Pref, Japan, July 18, 2009 --- The 20th International Biology Olympiad Organizing Committee today announced the medal winners for the 20th International Biology Olympiad (IBO2009 Tsukuba), an annual competition for secondary school students that seeks to stimulate interest in biology, develop problem-solving skills and foster future biologists. IBO2009 Tsukuba began on July 12 and runs through July 19.

A total of 221 students representing 56 countries, regions and territories are participating in IBO2009 Tsukuba, competing in a series of theoretical and practical biology examinations. The Organizing Committee awarded gold, silver and bronze medals to 23, 46, and 68 students, respectively.

"We are delighted to report that a record number of talented students from across the globe participated in the 20th International Biology Olympiad and that they achieved some significant milestones -- improving their knowledge and expertise in biology while developing new friendships," said Dr. Hiroo Imura, Chairperson, IBO2009 Tsukuba. "Equally impressive has been the opportunity to watch these students grow during the course of the Olympiad. Expertise in biological science has never been of greater importance to mankind, and we're convinced that the future of biological science is in good hands. Inspired by the students' performances, we hope that more and more young people will take up the challenge of biological science."

Six nations participated in the first International Biology Olympiad, held in Olomouc, Czechoslovakia in 1990. Since then, the number of participants has continued to grow with each successive event. The 21st International Biology Olympiad will be held in Changwon, Korea.

For further information, please contact:

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