

Emergency Briefing on Climate and Nature

Opening Session

September 30, 2026 Tokyo

The Importance of Science - Takaaki Kajita, Distinguished Professor, University of Tokyo

Biography Born in March 1959 / Graduated from the Faculty of Science, Saitama

University in 1981 Completed Master's program in Physics, Graduate School of Science, University of Tokyo in 1983 / Completed Doctoral program in Physics, Graduate School of Science, University of Tokyo in 1986 Assistant Professor, International Center for Elementary Particle Physics, Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo in 1986 Assistant Professor, Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo in 1988 / Associate Professor, Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo in 1992 Director, Center for Cosmic Neutrino Observation and Information Fusion, Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo in 1999 (until March 2016) Professor, Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo in 1999 (until March 2024) Director, Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo in 2008 (until March 2022) **Received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2015 for "Discovery of neutrino oscillations showing that neutrinos have mass"** 2016 Special Honorary Professor, University of Tokyo / 2017 Distinguished Professor, University of Tokyo in 2017 Member of the Science Council of Japan (until September 2023) 2017: Director of the Institute for Collaborative Research in Next-Generation Neutrino Science (currently the Institute for Collaborative Research in Next-Generation Neutrino Science and Multi-Messenger Astronomy) 2019 (December): Member of the Japan Academy / 2020 (October): President of the Science Council of Japan (until September 2023) 2024 (June): Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo

