

JAPAN

Following the March 11 twin natural disasters of earthquake and tsunami which struck the north-east of Japan, but whose overall impact has been felt over a much larger area of the country, the Affiliate's 2011 Annual Meeting Organizing Committee was obliged to cancel the special 10th Anniversary series of events originally scheduled for April 12-16.

In the meantime, a one-day event organized for March 25, the SAM&GMP Meeting hosted by Nipro Pharma, in Japan's hard hit northern region, also had to be cancelled.

The cancellations were made with great regret for those who had already committed to the Meetings, as speakers or participants. However, it was understood that there would be wide recognition of the need for Japan to concentrate its resources on the earliest possible recovery and reconstruction of its industries and infrastructure. The sincere hope is that there will be an equivalent level of interest from around the world in the Affiliate's 2012 Annual Meeting!

Nevertheless, a commemorative publication celebrating 10 years of the Affiliate's existence will proceed on schedule to publication in April and subsequent distribution to the entire Japan-based membership.

Two important documents have been translated into the Japanese language and will be published in April. These are: Baseline Guide Volume 2, 2nd Edition: Oral Solid Dosage Forms; and Baseline Guide Volume 7 Risk-Based Manufacture of Pharmaceutical Products (Risk-MaPP): A Guide to Managing Risks Associated with Cross-Contamination. The translations represent major achievements for the Affiliate's COPs.

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