I am delighted to welcome everyone to the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Tour for 2013. This tour started in 1992, with 21 tournaments in 13 countries. Then it has grown in size with the spread of the wheelchair tennis. It is estimated that more than 160 tournaments will be held in 45 countries this year. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to every person who supports the event and the wheelchair tennis fans.

The NEC Group is striving to become “a leading global company leveraging the power of innovation to realize an information society friendly to humans and the earth”. To realize this vision, NEC conducts corporate citizenship activities based on the following three mid-term themes:

- Eliminating the Digital Divide
- Addressing Climate Change and Environmental Preservation
- Developing Diverse Human Resources

At the same time, in keeping with corporate social responsibility (CSR), the NEC Group is committed to engaging in activities that contribute to sustainable development of society all over the world.

To support the wheelchair tennis is one of those activities. We, NEC promote social inclusion of the disabled and international friendship by sponsoring the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Tour and the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters the world championship organized by International Tennis Federation and also the NEC-Japan Wheelchair Tennis Association Masters the national championship organized by JWTA(Japan Wheelchair Tennis Association).

I would like to thank all the athletes, coaches, every sponsor and volunteer in the local community who have contributed to the success of this tour. Without which the tour would not be possible.

I wish all the players the best of luck.