



## Academy of International Business

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March 30, 2011

Dear AIB Members:

After considerable discussion and rigorous evaluation, the AIB Executive Board has made a decision to commit to holding the 2011 Annual Conference in Nagoya, Japan, June 24-28, 2011. Assuming no new disaster or significant worsening of the current disaster in a manner that *directly* affects Nagoya, our reasons are clear. Safety is our first objective; and Nagoya is safe by all accounts:

- Nagoya has had no damage and no casualties from the earthquake, tsunami, or the radiation fallout. Its infrastructure is intact and operational. It has not been impacted by the rolling power outages or food shortages.
- Nagoya is over 460 kilometers (285 miles) from the nuclear disaster site, more than twice the distance to Tokyo.
- There is no detectable deviation in background radiation and no tap water radiation in the Nagoya area (<http://goo.gl/RNahR>). All security and health experts agree that Nagoya is considered to be at a very low risk for any possible radiation leak. (Even in Tokyo there is currently no detectable deviation in background radiation).
- We contacted the U.S. Commercial Consul in Nagoya who expressed his opinion, based on available information, that he does not see any radioactive risk in Nagoya.
- International organizations, including the World Health Organization (WHO) says that it is safe to travel to Nagoya (<http://goo.gl/N5qjO>). The vast majority of advice against travel from governments (including UK, Australia, and Canada) are only limited to Tokyo and north of Tokyo, and thus do not include Nagoya (which is to the west of Tokyo).
- Of the 18 international conferences/tradeshows scheduled for Nagoya, Kyoto, and Tokyo for the May-July period, 17 have confirmed their intention to keep their meetings in Japan (only one event on Tokyo has been relocated).
- There is still close to three months before the AIB conference will take place in Nagoya, and by then most of the current uncertainty will have also likely resolved.
- And finally, our local hosts at Nanzan University have indicated that they are ready and motivated more than ever to welcome us to Nagoya. They are committed to making the 2011 AIB annual meeting safe, worthwhile, and enjoyable for all attendees.

We see this as an important opportunity for the AIB community to come together and support Japan, our local hosts, and the local economy. Toward that end, the AIB Executive Board has decided that all unrestricted member donations made to the AIB Foundation between now and the conference will be donated to the Japanese Earthquake Relief. You can donate while registering for the conference or directly through <http://aib.msu.edu/membership/donation.asp>.

As we reaffirm our commitment to having our annual meeting in Nagoya, Japan, we sincerely hope you will join us there!

Mary Ann Von Glinow  
AIB President

Tomas Hult  
AIB Foundation President