Koh Furuta

I was elected as a DAL of ISBER IPR region in June 2019. Since then I have served as a DAL. Besides regular assignments of DAL, I focused on facilitating communications with RAs in this region. Addition to these communications I also focused on local activity and trying to acquire local needs. By these activities I am now much familiar with current status in this region.

Besides these, I had a chance to spend five months at International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC, WHO) in Lyon, France in 2019. I was exposed to not only a lot of information in Europe, but also various attempts by IARC for low-and middle-income countries (LIMICs).

Based on these experiences, I realized IPR is really a promising region in biobanking field. I have experiences as a clinician, and a researcher. Further I was involved in ISO activities so far. Especially I was deeply involved in preparation of ISO 20387 document.

By this background, I am now considering three issues which I am going to pursue as a DAL of IPR.

1. Cooperation and Collaboration:
   To facilitate setting up better environment for citizen, private sectors, and academics. Public private partnership is one of my keywords.

2. Embracement of Diversity:
   To facilitate setting up better environment not only for non-human biobanking field, especially in marine biology, but also for various countries and regions of different economical stages.

3. Education and Training:
   To facilitate setting up better environment for dissemination of basic knowledge and skills in biobanking, such as preparing infrastructure of biobanking, say education, training, certification, and so on. Related to this, dissemination of knowledge and skills by non-English language media needs to be focused.

I understand these issues, even one issue, are challenging. Even so, I think everything starts just from a tiny one step. I am ready to do this as the DAL in IPR region.