

Trinidad and Tobago Chemistry Olympiad (TTChO) Reception and Cultural Demonstration

On Tuesday 7 December 2021, Ambassador Tatsuo Hirayama and Mrs. Hirayama hosted the Trinidad and Tobago Chemistry Olympiad (TTChO) to a meeting and cultural demonstration at their official residence.

The students who recently participated in the International Chemistry Olympiad virtually hosted by Japan and coordinators from the TTChO were invited to be part of this event.

At the reception, Ambassador Hirayama gave remarks and presented tokens to the students who represented Trinidad and Tobago in the International Event. They are Mr. Aiden Ramgoolam of Naparima College, Ms. Alayna Ragbar of Naparima Girls' High School, Ms. Vineeta Bujhawan of St. Augustine Girls' High School and Mr. Jaasiel Edwards of Naparima College. Ambassador Hirayama also presented the trophy to the TTChO Top Senior National Chemist – Mr. Dayanand Moonoo of Presentation College Chaguanas.

Ms. Laura Rambaran-Seepersad, Coordinator of the TTCHO gave remarks on behalf of the TTChO and presented Ambassador and Madam Hirayama with a token of appreciation. Dr. Terry Mohammed, Deputy Dean (outreach), Faculty of Science and Technology, UWI, presented the trophy to TTChO Top Junior National Chemist – Mr. Justin Seetaram of Couva East Secondary School.

Following the remarks and presentation of tokens, the TTCHO was shown Videos showcasing Japan's investment in Trinidad and Tobago, namely Caribbean Gas Chemical Limited (CGCL), and linkages of collaboration between Trinidad and Tobago and its Tokyo Olympics Host Town, Nakatosu in Kochi Prefecture.

Next, Mr. Jinichi Osawa, the Japanese Ambassador's Chef, conducted the Mochi Tsuki Demonstration. Madam Hirayama explained the techniques and the preparation required to make the Mochi and the students were asked to participate in making the Mochi, which they enjoyed. Mochi Tsuki is an important traditional event in Japan in preparation for the New Year.

Ambassador Hirayama hoped that this event would help broaden the students' knowledge and interest in Japan.

* The Trinidad and Tobago Chemistry Olympiad (TTCHO) is an Initiative of the Faculty of Science and Technology (FST) at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus and the Ministry of Education with the support from the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs. The TTCHO was officially launched in 2019.

*** Please visit the Embassy of Japan Website for more information on our daily activities:
https://www.tt.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html



From Left to Right

Ms Laura Rambaran-Seepersad, Mr. Dayanand Moonoo, Mr. Jaasiel Edwards, Mr. Aiden Ramgoolam, Ambassador Hirayama, Ms. Alayna Ragbar, Ms. Vineeta Bujhawan, Mr. Justin Seetaram and Dr. Terry Mohammed



Ambassador give remarks



Ms. Laura Rambaran-Seepersad give remarks



From Left to Right

Ms Laura Rambaran-Seepersad, Mr Justin Seetaram (Top Junior National Chemist), Ambassador Hirayama, Mr. Dayanand Moonoo (Top Senior National Chemist) and Dr. Terry Mohammed



Students who participated in the International Chemistry Olympiad in Japan
From Left to Right

Ms Laura Rambaran-Seepersad, Mr. Jaasiel Edwards, Mr. Aiden Ramgoolam, Ambassador Hirayama, Ms. Alayna Ragbar, Ms. Vineeta Bujhawan and Dr. Terry Mohammed



Student participates in the pounding of the Mochi



Student participates in the pounding of the Mochi



Students look on as Madam Hirayama explains the process of the Mochi Making



Mochi