

## 32<sup>nd</sup> World Amateur Go Championship – Closing Ceremony Speech

Wednesday 1 June 2011

Hello everyone, I am the Governor of Shimane Prefecture, Zembee Mizoguchi. I would like to say a few words.

My deepest respect goes to all of the competitors for all their efforts shown in the 8 matches played over the last 4 days.

I'm sure that you are all going through a wealth of emotions, thinking what if I had played this move, or if I had done that I could have won the game. I know that emotions are still running high. However it is with great reluctance that we have now reached the championship closing ceremony.

I wish to congratulate all the prizewinners and, of course, our new World Amateur Go Champion. Furthermore, I hope that all the participants have enjoyed themselves and made some long-lasting memories to take with them.

I am delighted to have had the opportunity to meet everyone, having taken part in the international exchange game, observe everyone during their games, as well as attending the opening and closing ceremonies.

Tomorrow will see everyone departing Shimane but I hope that you will share your memories of Japan and Shimane with your friends and family after going back home, nurturing a relationship between yourselves and Japan.

Finally, I would like to thank all of those involved with the running of this tournament once again for all of their hard work and I pray that the culture of Go continues to develop across the world. Thank you very much.