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Comments on the acquisition of naming rights to element 113

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Kosuke Morita has devoted his efforts to experiments on the synthesis of heavy elements since his arrival at RIKEN in 1984. In fact, the experiments that led to the discovery of element 113, which was just officially recognized, took a whole decade of work. It was a truly long journey, and we are thrilled by the final achievement. I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the joint IUPAC-IUPAP Working Group for recognizing that Dr. Morita's group had worked to gather and submit solid evidence before our colleagues conducted similar experiments in Russia.

We must also keep in mind that this achievement was made possible not by the Morita group alone, but also by a decade of effort by RIKEN's accelerator group, which was able to increase the beam intensity a thousand-fold and make it possible to carry out experiments throughout the year. Now that the Morita group has been given the naming rights, I believe that we have been able to meet the expectations of the many Japanese citizens who encouraged and supported us. We plan to continue our work, moving on to the challenge of synthesizing elements 119 and 120. We ask for your continued understanding and support.