



GLOBAL HARMONIZATION TASK FORCE

Working Toward Harmonization in Medical Device Regulation

GHTF CLOSING STATEMENT November 2012

The Global Harmonization Task Force (GHTF) was established in 1992 for the purpose of encouraging harmonization in regulatory requirements and practices related to ensuring the safety, effectiveness / performance and quality of medical devices, promoting technological innovation and facilitating international trade.

As the chair of the GHTF, I would like to thank all who have been working for and involved in the GHTF.

The GHTF published dozens of important guidance documents including the GHTF Regulatory Model as the result of the hard work and significant contribution from regulators, industry, academia and other stakeholders. These documents have been implemented into the medical device regulations in many countries not only the five founding member nations but also other countries.

The International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF) was launched in February 2012. This new regulatory forum stands on the strong foundation of the GHTF. I believe it will play an important role in the future work of the IMDRF to achieve further convergence of medical device regulations around the world.

Once again, I would like to express my great appreciation to all of the members and organizations involved in the GHTF for their great contributions and to celebrate the launch of the IMDRF and its future achievements based on the 20 years history of the GHTF.

November 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kazunari Asanuma', written over a horizontal line.

GHTF Chair
Kazunari Asanuma