Max-Planck-The University of Tokyo Center for Integrative Inflammology Dear Colleagues,

As the end of 2018 approaches, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for your valuable contribution and cooperation to our Center over the previous five years. The Center has done quite well, publishing dozens of papers in its name, holding numerous Max Planck Center seminars, initiating research collaborations between German and Japanese labs, and supporting Max Planck Junior Fellows among other activities. We are very grateful to the members of the Center for their contributions to these accomplishments.

As you may be aware, the agreement on which the Center was founded terminates at the end of this year. Although the Center will not continue, we are pleased that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Max Planck Society and the University of Tokyo that will define and forge mutual collaboration will be signed between the Presidents very soon. We believe that this new development is only possible because of our Center's past activities.

We also hope that the friendships and professional relationships forged over the past 5 years will not only continue but be strengthened in the years to come.

We thank you again and wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season and a prosperous 2019.

With best regards,

Tada Taniguchi (Department of Molecular Immunology, Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo)

Rudolf Grosschedl (Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics)

(Co-Directors)