

## **Chairperson's Summary**

### **The Eleventh Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA) July 4 – 6, 2011 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

#### **I. Organizational Matters**

1. The Eleventh Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA) was organized by Mongolian Academy of Sciences (MAS) as the host organization in cooperation with Science Council of Japan (SCJ) as the secretariat of SCA in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from July 4 to 6, 2011, under the theme of “Combating Land Degradation in Asia”. During the conference, one session of Management Board Meeting and two sessions of General Assembly Meetings and four SCA Special Sessions as well as the SCA International Symposium were held.
2. The conference was attended by eleven member countries, namely: Bangladesh (newly obtained the SCA membership during this SCA Conference), China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam (absentee: Singapore). As observers, representatives of ICSU Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific (ICSU-RCAP), Institut de Technologie du Cambodge (ITC), Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) and National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka (NASSL) participated in the conference.
3. Management Board meeting and General Assembly meetings were chaired by Batbold Enkhtuvshin, President of Mongolian Academy of Sciences, President of SCA (June 2010-July 2011).

#### **II. Proceedings of the Conference**

##### **A. Management Board Meeting and General Assembly Meeting I [July 4]**

**Venue: Government Palace of Mongolia**

4. The Eleventh SCA Annual Report was approved.

5. Application for a new SCA membership from Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) was approved. Bangladesh became the twelfth member country and BAS became the twentieth member organization of SCA.
6. Revision of the SCA Statutes and By-laws, which incorporated the aspects of; 1) improvement of efficiency of governances, 2) establishment of self-supportive financial basis and 3) further stimulation of activities, were approved.
7. Future host countries of SCA conferences were proposed and announced.  
Conference in 2012: Indonesia (Bogor)  
Conference in 2013: Thailand  
Conference in 2014: Malaysia  
Conference in 2015: India
8. New SCA officers were elected among the members of the General Assembly meeting. Lukman Hakim, Chairman of Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) was elected as President, Mohd Nordin Hasan, Fellow, Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM), was elected as Vice President/President-Elect, Supot Hannongba, President-Elect, Science Society of Thailand under the Patronage of H.M. the King (SST) was elected as Vice President, Batbold Enkhuvshin, President, Mongolian Academy of Sciences (MAS) assumed as Immediate Past President and Yoichi Muraoka, Member of the SCJ, was elected as Secretary-General / Treasurer.
9. The first announcement of the twelfth SCA conference in Indonesia in 2012 was made by Lukman Hakim, Chairman of Indonesia Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Vice President of SCA and was unanimously acknowledged.
10. Current status of SCA Joint Projects was introduced by Yoichi Muraoka, Secretary General/Treasurer of SCA.
11. The program of four SCA Special Sessions, “Open Data and Knowledge Environment for Innovative Research, Education and Society on Environment in Asia (ODKE)”,

“Monitoring and Prediction for Early Warning against Water-Related Disasters in Asia-Towards Integrated Research”, “Pop Culture in Asia: The Landscape of Mongolia – the Formation of Its “Prairie Image” in East Asia” and “Developing E-Science in Asia”, was introduced.

12. The final program of SCA International Symposium “Combating Land Degradation in Asia” was endorsed.

13. Guideline for SCA Activities in line with the Report on the New Framework of Science Council of Asia (SCA) was approved.

14. Two Special Presentations, “Mongolia-Japan Center” by Mr. Hideo Morikawa, Director of Mongolia-Japan Center for Human Resources Development and “Japan ODA activities and SATREPS program” by Cindy Yoshiko Shirata, Council Member of Science Council of Japan, were made.

#### **B. Courtesy Call to the Parliament Member of Mongolia [July 4]**

##### **Venue: Government Palace of Mongolia**

15. A courtesy call by the SCA Management Board Members to Mr. Ochirbat Dagvadorj, Member of the State Great Hural (Parliament), Chair of Standing Committee on Social Policy, Education, Culture and Science was arranged.

#### **C. SCA Special Sessions [July 4]**

##### **Venue: Mongolia-Japan Center for Human Resources Development**

16. Four SCA Special Sessions, “Open Data and Knowledge Environment for Innovative Research, Education and Society on Environment in Asia (ODKE)”, “Monitoring and Prediction for Early Warning against Water-Related Disasters in Asia-Towards Integrated Research”, “Pop Culture in Asia: The Landscape of Mongolia – the Formation of Its “Prairie Image” in East Asia” and “Developing E-Science in Asia”, were organized on July 4.

#### **D. Reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Miyegombo Enkhbold [July 4]**

**Venue: Elite Center**

17. Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia H.E. Mr. Miyegombo Enkhbold hosted a reception in honor of the 11<sup>th</sup> SCA Conference delegations.

#### **E. SCA International Symposium [July 5]**

**Venue: Ulaanbaatar Hotel**

18. SCA International Symposium “Combating Land Degradation in Asia” was organized by Mongolian Academy of Sciences (MAS). The symposium was composed of a series of lectures, presentations and discussions addressing the land degradation and desertification issues across the Asia from a wide variety of perspectives. It was attended by a large number of audiences from academia, government and public.

19. A keynote speech was made by His Excellency Mr. Miyegombo Enkhbold, Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia, about the land issues with focusing on desertification that Mongolia is now addressing while viewing the issues relating to the land problems which are to be solved with the help of scientific breakthrough.

20. Ichiro Kanazawa, Immediate-past President of the Science Council of Japan, delivered a special message including the gratitude for the generous support that Japan had received from many countries for those suffered from the Great East Japan Earthquake in March this year followed by the report on the course and development of the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Accident.

21. The symposium was composed of a number of scientific presentations by experts under the relevant sub-themes including “Policy and Steps by the Mongolian Government to Combat Land Degradation and Desertification”, “Current Status and Future Strategies Relating to Desertification and Land Degradation/Land Cover in Asian Countries” “Information, Assessment and Mapping of Land Degradation and Desertification” and “Land Cover Change and Urban Land Planning”.

22. At Special Information Session on “Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)”, a presentation was made by Cindy Yoshiko Shirata, Council Member of Science Council of Japan.
23. Panel discussion served as a forum for active interaction amongst the speakers, SCA member representatives and audience. The discussion addressed to various land issues in the respective SCA member country that require scientific approach for future improvement and sustainability.

#### **F. General Assembly Meeting II [July 6]**

##### **Venue: Mongolian Academy of Sciences (MAS)**

24. A report of each SCA Special Session organized on 4 July was presented. Sukhbaatar Bilgee from Mongolian University of Science and Technology delivered a report on “Developing E-Science in Asia” and so did Liu Chuang on “Open Data Knowledge Environment for Innovative Research, Education and Society on Environment in Asia (ODKE)”, Ichirow Kaihotsu on “Monitoring and Prediction for Early Warning against Water-Related Disasters in Asia –Towards Integrated Research” and Mamie Misawa on “Pop Culture in Asia: The Landscape of Mongolia – the Formation of Its “Prairie Image” in East Asia”.
25. A report presentation on SCA International Symposium “Combating Land Degradation in Asia” was made by J. Tsogtbaatar, Director, Institute of Geoecology, Mongolian Academy of Sciences.
26. Lukman Hakim, Chairman of Indonesia Institute of Sciences (LIPI) presented the draft plan of the SCA conference in 2012 in Indonesia. The conference is tentatively scheduled for 10-12 July, 2012, Bogor, Indonesia under the proposed theme “Mobilizing Science toward Green Economy”.

### **G. Excursion to Tsomjin Boldog [July 6]**

27. The 11<sup>th</sup> SCA Conference delegated visited the Chinggis Khaan Memorial at Tsomjin Boldog.

### **H. Others**

28. The FASAS Executive Council meeting was held between 2 and 3 July, 2011 in the Mongolian Academy of Sciences.