

## Chairperson's Summary

### The Fourth Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA)

May 13 – 15, 2004

Seoul

1. The Science Council of Asia (SCA) was established in May 2000, with the following purposes: to exchange information on the current status of science among Asian countries; to promote collaboration and cooperation in a wide range of field of science in the Asian region, and to advance mutual understanding and trust among scientists in Asia.
2. Following the 1st SCA Conference held in Bangkok, Thailand in 2001, the 2nd in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2002, and the 3rd in Denpasar, Indonesia in 2003, the 4th Conference was held at the Westin Chosun Hotel in Seoul, Republic of Korea, May 13 to 15, 2004. Ten member countries, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam participated. In addition, Mongolia joined the Conference as a new member country after gaining consensus approval of the members present in the General Assembly. As observers, representatives from 10 international, regional or national organizations attended the Conference. (See the attachment 1 for the participants in the General Assembly.) The main theme of this Conference was “Globalization of Asian Economy and Role of Sciences for Sustainable Development.”
3. On May 14, the Academic Symposium was held under the main theme. The program was as follows.
  - 1) Opening Ceremony  
Mr. Byung Young Ahn, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, delivered the welcome address after the opening address by Dr. Ho Wang Lee, SCA President.
  - 2) Symposium I: Globalization of Asian Economy  
Prof. Dong Ki Kim, member, National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of R.O.K., gave a keynote lecture at the beginning: “Globalization of Asian Economy: With Special Reference to the Experience of Korea”. Then two invited lectures followed: “Globalization of Asian Economy and the Role of Sciences for Sustainable Society: Japan Perspective” by Prof. Yasuhiro Sakai, member, Science Council of Japan (SCJ) and “East Asia After the Financial Crisis: What's Next?” by Prof. Mohamed Ariff, Executive Director, Malaysian Institute of Economic Research. Prof. Ariff's paper was read by the Chairperson of this session, Prof. Man Woo Lee, Professor, Korea University, owe to the last minute's cancellation of the author.
  - 3) Symposium II: Frontiers in Chemical Research  
The keynote lecture of this session was given by Japanese Nobel laureate in chemistry 2001, Prof. Ryoji Noyori, President of RIKEN (The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research) and Professor of Nagoya University: “Asymmetric Catalysis: Science and Opportunities”. The two invited lectures were: “A Venerable Tool for the Development of New Materials” by Prof. Youngkyu Do, Professor, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, and “Chemistry of the Marine Bistetrahydroisoquinoline

Alkaloids, Renieramycins and the New Frontier Anticancer Agents” by Prof. Khanit Suwanborirux, Professor, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.

This session was co-chaired by Prof. Eun Lee, Professor of the Seoul National University, R.O.K. and Prof. Hitoshi Ohtaki, member of the Committee for Science Council of Asia, SCJ, Japan.

4) SCA Joint Project

The current progress of the two SCA Joint Projects were presented by Dr. Omar Abdul Rahman, Senior Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, on “Knowledge for Sustainable Development: Science and Technology for Sustainability” and by Dr. Montri Chulavatnatol, Vice President of the Thai Academy of Science and Technology on “Sustainable Development Indicators: A progress report”. Out of 15 proposals for the SCA Joint Project at the 2nd and 3rd SCA Conferences, five progress reports were presented. Prof. Sang Dai Park and Prof. Yong Il Kim, members of the NAS, R.O.K., moderated the SCA Joint Project session.

(See the Attachment 2 for the Academic Symposium program.)

4. At the Management Board Meetings and the General Assemblies conducted on May 13 and 15, the following items were discussed and determined.

- 1) The Management Board approved the fourth annual report drafted by the SCA Secretariat and presented it to the General Assembly.
- 2) It was proposed and approved that Mongolia becomes the 11th member country of the SCA with the Mongolian Academy of Sciences as its first member organization.
- 3) Amendments to the By-laws of SCA were approved so that the newly admitted member country may join the General Assembly immediately after the approval. (See the Attachment 3 for the revised By-laws.)
- 4) Viet Nam presented the draft plan of the 5th SCA Conference in Hanoi in May 2005. The details of the program will be determined through further deliberation by the host country and the SCA Secretariat.
- 5) It was confirmed that India will be the host country for the 6th SCA Conference in 2006, and further the members approved that Japan would host the 7th Conference in 2007.
- 6) The Guidelines for SCA Joint Projects were approved after some modifications at the Management Board meeting and General Assembly. (See the Attachment 4 for the approved Guidelines.)
- 7) The SCA endorsement of the initiative on the International Year of Planet Earth without any financial support was discussed. The final decision would be made after deliberation with further detailed information.
- 8) Special lectures were delivered by observer organizations of the 4th SCA Conference. They were: APEC: Achieving sustainability with economic growth and ASEAN: Agenda for Sustainable Development. The work of the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM) was also briefly presented.
- 9) Each member country presented its situation on science and technology.
- 10) New SCA officers were elected. Mr. Thach Can, Director General, Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), Viet Nam was elected to President; and Dr. Ranjit Sinha, Director, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), which will host the 6th SCA Conference, to Vice President/President-Elect. Dr. Ho Wang Lee, President of the NAS, R.O.K., remains to

be an officer as Immediate Past President, and Dr. Kiyoshi Kurokawa, President of the Science Council of Japan, continues to serve as the Secretary General/Treasurer. (See the Attachment 5 for the MB members who will serve the next one year.)

5. The new SCA President, all the members of the Management Board and those who presented in the General Assembly expressed gratitude to SCA President, Dr. Ho Wang Lee, for his leadership in the successful 4th SCA Conference. Participants showed high expectation for the next 5th SCA Conference to be held in Hanoi, and for future activities of SCA.

\* The attachments are not given here.