

Chairperson's Summary

Chairperson's Summary

The Seventh Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA) June 14 – 16, 2007 Okinawa

I. Organizational Matters

1. The 7th Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA) was convened by the Science Council of Japan (SCJ) at Okinawa Convention Center in Japan, from June 14 to 16, 2007, on the theme “Energy and Environment.” During the conference, two Management Board Meetings, two General Assemblies and the Parallel Session were held as well as the SCA / PSA Joint Symposium.

2. The conference was attended by nine member countries: China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. As observers, representatives from five international, regional or national organizations participated in the conference: International Council for Science (ICSU) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; UNESCO Office, Jakarta; Pacific Science Association (PSA); Qingdao Association for Science and Technology, China; and Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology.

3. The conference was chaired by Prof. Ichiro Kanazawa, President of the SCA and the SCJ.

II. Proceedings of the Conference

A. Management Board Meetings and General Assemblies [June 14-15]

4. During the Management Board meetings and the General Assemblies convened on June 14 and 15, the following items were discussed and determined.

(1) The 7th SCA Annual Report was adopted. It was suggested that the next annual report should include progress reports on the SCA Joint Projects which are currently under way.

(2) Three new SCA Joint Projects were proposed and approved: “Genomics-based Comparative Analyses of Gene Expression of Wild Asian Honeybees for Improving European Domestic Honeybees” proposed by Dr. Kiyoshi Kimura, “Space and

Lithosphere Environment Changes in Indonesia” proposed by Prof. Kiyofumi Yumoto and “Institutional Design of Global Information Commons for Asia” proposed by Prof. Shuichi Iwata.

(3) After the deliberation including the discussion at the Informal Meetings, the 7th SCA Conference Joint Statements on “Energy and Environment” and “the Future of the SCA” were unanimously adopted. The process of adopting the statements provided an invaluable opportunity to discuss common challenges, experiences and the way forward. On adoption, the Chairman observed that these statements were the beginning of the SCA members’ collective endeavors, and thus called for the members’ active participation in future activities. In implementing the contents of the statements, starting with selecting the themes for the Joint Research Projects, the SCA Secretary-General will communicate with respective member organizations in due course.

(4) New SCA officers were elected from among the members of the Management Board. Prof. Feng Changgen, Executive Secretary of the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), was elected President; Associate Prof. Lam Kong Peng, Executive Director of the Singapore Immunology Network, Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), was elected Vice-President; and Prof. Yoichi Muraoka, Vice-Chairperson of the SCA Organizing Committee of the SCJ, was elected Secretary-General / Treasurer.

(5) China presented the draft plan of the 8th SCA Conference in Qingdao in 2008. It was confirmed that the main theme would be “Coastal Oceans: Their Sustainability and Responses to Global Change,” and the conference would be held in combination with the International Forum on Marine Sci-tech and Economic Development 2008, which is cosponsored by the SCA, the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) and the Qingdao Municipal Government, on June 24 – 27, 2008 in Qingdao, China.

(6) It was confirmed that Singapore would be the host country for the 9th SCA Conference in 2009 and the Philippines would be the host country for the 10th SCA Conference in 2010.

B. Parallel Session [June 15]

5. Among the SCA Joint Projects which are in progress, four projects, namely, “Gender,” “Aquatic Environment,” “Natural Disasters” and “Ocean Security,”

concurrently held individual sessions during the morning of June 15. The summary of each session was reported at General Assembly II; Prof. Matori Yamamoto from the SCJ gave a presentation on “A Comparative Study of the Research Conditions of Women Scientists and the Present States of Women’s / Gender Studies in Asian Countries Towards Sustainable Development,” Prof. Tetsuya Kusuda from the SCJ gave a presentation on “Management of Sustainable Aquatic Environment,” Prof. Masanori Hamada from the SCJ gave a presentation on “Construction of a Secure and Safe Society against Global Changes of Natural Disasters” and Prof. Tadao Kuribayashi from the SCJ gave a presentation on “International Cooperation in Securing the Oceans in Asia – Transportation and Disposal of Radioactive Material at Sea.” In addition, Prof. Mazlin Bin Mokhtar from the Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI), Malaysia, gave a presentation at General Assembly I on “Sustainability Science for Sustainability Governance: A Study on Science-Governance Symbioses,” a SCA Joint Project which is currently in progress.

C. SCA / PSA Joint Symposium [June 16]

6. At the SCA / PSA Joint Symposium on June 16, after the opening remarks by Dr. Ichiro Kanazawa, President of the SCA / SCJ and Dr. Nancy Lewis, Secretary-General of the PSA, the congratulatory address by Mr. Hirokazu Nakaima, Governor of Okinawa, and the introduction of the message from Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, His Imperial Highness Prince Akishino delivered a special address on “Greeting for 7th Science Council of Asia .” This was followed by two keynote speeches by Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, on “The Challenge of Climate Change – Dealing Energy and Environment Policy –,” and by Prof. Leo Tan, President of the Singapore National Academy of Science, on “The environment: A global snapshot of some issues with perspectives from Singapore.” The Symposium then moved on to lively Panel Discussion Sessions on specific themes: “Energy and Environment,” “Education and Environment” and “Water Resources.” It is worth noting that among the panelists were students of Okinawa Prefectural Miyako Agriculture and Forestry High School who made a presentation entitled “Protecting the Life-sustaining Groundwater of Miyako Island: The Development of an Environmentally Friendly Organic Fertilizer utilizing Phosphorus Accumulated in the Soil” during the session on “Water Resources.” The Symposium concluded with closing remarks by Prof. Ichiro Kanazawa, President of the SCA / SCJ.

Officers

President/Secretary General/Treasurer


Ichiro Kanazawa(Japan/SCJ)

Vice President/President-Elect


Feng Changgen(China/CAST)


Immediate Past President

(Absent)
Andre Beteille(India)

Member countries

China



Liang Yingnan


Yang Xi

India

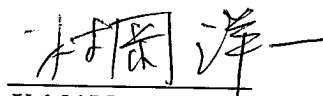
(Absent)

Indonesia


Rochadi Abdulhadi

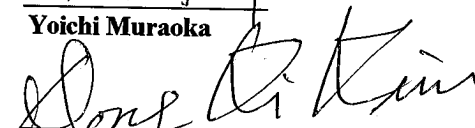
Japan


Norihisa Doi

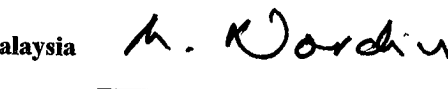

Yoichi Muraoka

Republic of
Korea


Ho-Wang Lee


Dong Ki Kim

Malaysia


Mohd Nordin Hasan


Mazlin Bin Mokhtar

Mongolia

(Absent)

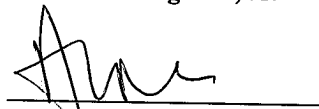
The Philippines


Olivia C. Caoili



Filomeno V. Aguilar, Jr.

Singapore


Lam Kong Peng

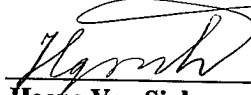

Alice Khong


Thailand


Montri Chulavattatol


Sumontha Promboon

Vietnam


Hoang Van Sinh


for: Luu Nam Phuong