

Officers (June 2010 – July 2011)

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Mongolian Academy of
Sciences (MAS),
Mongolia

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Prof. Dr. Lukman Hakim
Chairman
Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI),
Indonesia

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Prof. Yoichi Muraoka
Council Member
Science Council of Japan (SCJ),
Japan

Immediate Past President



Dr. Jaime C. Montoya
Former President
National Research Council of the
Philippines (NRCP),
The Philippines

SCA Presidents

May 2000–May 2001	Prof. Dr. Montri Chulavatnatol Vice President, Thai Academy of Science and Technology (TAST)
May 2001–May 2002	Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Omar Abdul Rahman Past President, Academy of Sciences of Malaysia (ASM)
May 2002–May 2003	Dr. Ir. S. Suparka Vice Chairman, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)
May 2003–May 2004	Prof. Dr. Ho Wang Lee President, National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Korea (NAS)
May 2004–May 2005	Mr. Thach Can Director General, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), Vietnam
May 2005–April 2006	Prof. André Béteille Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
April 2006–September 2006	Dr. Kiyoshi Kurokawa President, Science Council of Japan (SCJ)
September 2006–June 2007	Prof. Ichiro Kanazawa President, Science Council of Japan (SCJ)
June 2007–May 2008	Prof. Feng Changgen Executive Secretary China Association for Science and Technology (CAST)
May 2008 - June 2009	Prof. Hong Wanjin Deputy Director Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (IMCB), Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Singapore
June 2009 – June 2010	Dr. Jaime C. Montoya President, National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP)

The annual SCA conference is held on a rotational basis so that each member country can actively participate in and contribute to the SCA.

The First Conference

May 9–11, 2001 Bangkok, Thailand

Theme: “Urgent Agenda for Asian Sustainability through Science and Technology”

Hosted by: National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and Science Council of Japan (SCJ)

In cooperation with: Thai Academy of Science and Technology (TAST) and Science Society of Thailand (SST)

About 40 scientists and policymakers from the 10 SCA member countries and major international, regional, and national scientific organizations attended the General Assembly. The Academic Symposium organized by the host country attracted about 100 participants.



At the Symposium, the Thai Minister of Science, Technology and Environment delivered the opening remarks, and seven speakers gave presentations. The following three special lectures were delivered in the morning.: Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Omar Abdul Rahman, SCA Vice President, gave a presentation entitled “Sustainable Development: A Vision for Asia – A Prosperous, Harmonious, and Greener Asia.” Prof. Dr. Gerard Ward, President of the Pacific Science Association (PSA), spoke on “Pacific Sustainability;” and Prof. Tetsuzo Yasunari, Chairperson of Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX)-GEWEX Asian Monsoon Experiment (GAME), discussed “A Prospect of Sustainable Agriculture in Monsoon Asia.” In the panel discussion in the afternoon, member countries presented their approaches to sustainability.

“A Common Vision for Sustainable Development in Asia” based on a prosperous, harmonious, and greener Asia was accepted, and member countries agreed to proceed with study projects related to sustainable development. Two SCA Joint Projects were launched: Malaysia would anchor “Sustainability Science” Project, and Thailand would spearhead “Sustainable Development Indicators.”

There has been much discussion about sustainable development in Europe and North America, and the SCA is in a unique position to put the sustainability issue in the Asian context. The importance of collaboration among researchers in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities was also stressed.

Observers (in alphabetical order)

Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies (FASAS)
Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX) –GEWEX Asian Monsoon Experiment (GAME)
Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
InterAcademy Council (IAC)
International Council for Science (ICSU)
National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA), Bangkok Office
Pacific Science Association (PSA)
Science Society of Thailand (SST)

The Second Conference

May 13–15, 2002 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Theme: “Urgent Agenda for Asian Sustainability: Operationalising the Vision”

Organized by: Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) and Science Council of Japan (SCJ)

In collaboration with: Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, Malaysia (MOSTE)
and Institute for Environment and Development, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (LESTARI)

About 50 scientists and policymakers from nine member countries (all SCA members except the Philippines), and major international, regional, and national scientific organizations participated in the General Assembly. The Academic Conference organized by the host country attracted about 100 participants.

At the Academic Conference, the Malaysian Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment delivered the opening remarks, and the following three keynote addresses were delivered: “Emergence of Bio-age and Its Implication for Sustainable Development” by Prof. A. H. Zakri, Director of the Institute of Advanced Studies, United Nations University; “Sustainability Science: A New Paradigm” by Prof. Dr. Mohd Nordin Hasan, Senior Fellow of the Institute for Environment and Development, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia; and “World Summit for Sustainable Development and the International Scientific and Technological Community” by Dato Ir. Lee Yee Cheong, President-Elect of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).



Progress reports on the two SCA Joint Projects were also presented at the General Assembly. Malaysia reported on the Sustainability Science Project, and Thailand delivered the progress report on the Sustainable Development Indicators Project, focusing on SDIs in Thailand. Proposals for two new SCA Joint Projects were presented at the General Assembly, and six were presented at the Academic Conference. Participants showed strong interest in “Collaborative Research in the Field of Hydrology” presented by Prof. Tadashi Yamada of the Science Council of Japan (SCJ).

The General Assembly endorsed “**The SCA Resolution on Sustainable Development in Asia.**”

Observers (in alphabetical order)

Business Council for Sustainable Development, Malaysia (BCSDM)
Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)
International Council for Science (ICSU)
Japan Science and Technology Corporation (JST), Malaysia Office
Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)
Malaysian Scientific Association (MSA)
Pacific Science Association (PSA)
State Ministry of the Republic of Indonesia for Research and Technology (SMRIRT)
United Nations University (UNU)
University of Malaya

The Third Conference

May 13–15, 2003 Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

Theme: “Operationalising the Vision: Optimal Resource Utilization for Sustainable Development”

Organized by: Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)

Co-organized by: Directorate General for Higher Education, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia and Science Council of Japan (SCJ)

About 40 participants from five member countries, and major international, regional, and national scientific organizations participated in the General Assembly. Some member countries could not attend for unavoidable reasons, such as the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). The Academic Symposium organized by the host country attracted about 150 participants. The Indonesian Minister for Research and Technology delivered the opening remarks.

At the Symposium, the following two keynote addresses were delivered: “Human Genome Diversity of Southeast Asia and Biotechnology Development: Implication, Application and Complication” by Prof. Dr. Sangkot Marzuki, Director of the Eijkaman Institute for Molecular Biology and “Women’s/Gender Studies in Asian Countries towards the Sustainable Development in Asia” by Prof. Hiroko Hara, Member of the Science Council of Japan (SCJ). Malaysia reported on the progress of the SCA Joint Project it is leading, and seven new proposals for consideration for the SCA Joint Project from four countries were presented. Progress reports on six of the eight SCA projects proposed at the second conference were distributed to participants. In addition, 37 poster presentations from 15 international and national institutions took place.

It was reported at the General Assembly that the SCA had endorsed and issued the “**Ubuntu Declaration on Education and Science and Technology for Sustainable Development**” with 10 other of the world’s foremost global educational organizations and scientific academies at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg from August 26 to September 4, 2002. General Assembly participants showed their expectation that the SCA would make a visible contribution not only in Asia but also in the world arena in the future in collaboration with other international organizations like the United Nations.



Observers (in alphabetical order)

- Indonesian Academy of Sciences (IAS)
- Mongolian Academy of Sciences (MAS)
- National Research Council, Indonesia
- Pacific Science Association (PSA)
- Udayana University, Indonesia
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The SCA issued the Ubuntu Declaration with the United Nations University, UNESCO, ICSU, and others at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, August 25–September 4, 2002.

UBUNTU DECLARATION

On Education and Science and Technology for Sustainable Development

In an effort to make integrated solutions work for sustainable development and to mobilize the education sector to contribute to sustainable development;

We, the education and scientific organizations of the world,

United Nations University; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; African Academy of Science; International Council for Science; International Association of Universities; Copernicus-Campus; Global Higher Education for Sustainability Partnership; Science Council of Asia; Third World Academy of Sciences; University Leaders for a Sustainable Future; and World Federation of Engineering Organizations,

call for an initiative to strengthen science and technology education for sustainable development.

Cognizant that integrated solutions for sustainable development depend on the continued and effective application of science and technology, and that education is critical in galvanizing the approach to the challenges of sustainable development.

Endorsing the Earth Charter as the inspiring, fundamental and balanced set of principles and guidelines for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century, which should permeate all levels and sectors of education.

Noting that science is all science - natural, social and human.

Recognizing the necessity to bridge the knowledge gap between the nations of the world through a fundamental redress of the distribution of education for sustainability.

Acknowledging that the ultimate goal of education in all its forms is to impart knowledge, skills and values to empower people to bring about changes.

Concerned that education has not been utilized as a vehicle for attaining sustainable development.

Reaffirming the indispensable role of education in achieving sustainable development, and the important role education plays in the mobilization of science and technology for sustainability as contained in Chapter 36 of Agenda 21.

Recalling the Lunenburg Declaration on Higher Education for Sustainable Development of 10 October 2001, and its emphasis on the indispensable role of higher education informing and supporting all education in addressing the critical challenges of sustainable development.

And recognizing that the Scientific and Technological community, as represented by the International Council for Science, Third World Academy of Sciences, and World Federation of Engineering Organizations in the WSSD process has called for a new social contract between science and technology and society for sustainable development.

Determined to work towards the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Development Declaration.

Call on Governments of the World Summit for Sustainable Development and the Post-Summit agenda to:

Designate educators as the tenth stakeholder group in the WSSD process.

Call on educators, Government and all relevant stakeholders to:

Review the programmes and curricula of schools and universities, in order to better address the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development, with a focus on:

- Plans at the local, regional and national country levels;
- Creating learning modules which bring skills, knowledge, reflections, ethics and values together in a balanced way;
- Problem-based education at primary and secondary levels in order to develop integrated and non-instrumental approaches to problem solving at an early stage in the education cycle;
- Problem-based scientific research in tertiary education, both as a pedagogical approach and as a research function;

Promote efforts to attract young people to the teacher profession both to meet the Millennium Development goals of universal access to primary education as well as to further strengthen primary, secondary and tertiary education. In developed countries the major challenge in the coming years will be to offset the high outflows of experienced teachers reaching retirement age or taking up other challenges.

Develop mechanisms to continuously inform teachers and update programmes on major progress in scientific and technological knowledge relevant for sustainable development.

Promote knowledge transfers in innovative ways in order to speed up the process of bridging gaps and inequalities in knowledge. This is the shared responsibility of teachers, schools, research and education institutions and governments.

To achieve these challenges and objectives, we are resolved to work towards a new global learning space on education and sustainability that promotes cooperation and exchange between institutions at all levels and in all sectors of education around the world. This space must be developed on the basis of international networks of institutions and the creation of regional centers of excellence, which bring together universities, polytechnics, and institutions of secondary education and primary schools. We invite all other responsible stakeholders to join us in this endeavour.