

Chairperson's Summary

The Third Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA)

May 13 – 15, 2003

Denpasar

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. The need for establishment of the SCA was acknowledged in the Asian Conference on Scientific Cooperation (ACSC), which had met annually in Tokyo since 1993.
2. Following the 1st SCA Conference held in Bangkok, Thailand in 2001, and the 2nd in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2002, the 3rd SCA Conference was held at Discovery Kartika Plaza Hotel in Denpasar, Indonesia, May 13 to 15, 2003. Five of ten member countries, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea and Malaysia participated. China, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam could not attend because of unavoidable reasons such as the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). As observers, representatives from six international, regional or national organizations attended the Conference. The main theme of this Conference was “Operationalising the Vision: Optimal Resource Utilization for Sustainable Development.”
3. On May 13, at the beginning of the Conference, Ir. Hatta Rajasa, Minister for Research and Technology, Indonesia delivered the Opening Remarks following the Welcoming Address by Dr. Ir. S. Suparka, President of SCA.
4. On May 14, the Academic Symposium was held under the main theme as shown in the attached program (Attachment 1). The content of program was as follows.
 - (1) Opening Symposium
Dr. Rochadi Abdulhadi, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 3rd SCA Conference delivered the Welcoming Address, and Prof. Dr. Umar Anggara Jenie, Chairman of LIPI gave the Opening Remarks.
 - (2) Keynote Address
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, Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology; and “Women's/Gender Studies in Asian Countries Towards the Sustainable Development in Asia” by Prof. Dr. Hiroko Hara, Member, Science Council of Japan (SCJ).
 - (3) Joint Projects of SCA
As the report on the existing SCA Joint Project, Malaysia made a presentation under the title of: “Knowledge for sustainable development: Science and Technology for Sustainability”. As to the proposed projects for the SCA Joint Project in the 2nd SCA Conference in Malaysia, the brief progress reports were distributed to participants.

- (4) New Proposals for Joint Projects of SCA
In the 3rd SCA Conference, five of seven new proposals for consideration for SCA Joint Project were presented. (See Attachment 2.)
 - (5) Thirty-seven poster presentations from fifteen international and national institutions took place during the Academic Symposium.
5. At the SCA Management Board Meetings and the General Assemblies conducted on May 13 and 15, the following items were discussed.
- (1) The Management Board approved the third annual report.
 - (2) Amendments to the Statutes and the By-laws of SCA were approved, as shown in the attachments 3 and 4, respectively.
 - (3) Republic of Korea presented the draft plan of the 4th SCA Conference in Seoul in May 2004, and the details of the program will be discussed further.
 - (4) It was confirmed that Viet Nam will be the host country for the 5th SCA Conference in 2005, and further, India would be the host country for the 6th SCA Conference in 2006.
 - (5) New SCA officers were elected. Prof. Ho Wang Lee, President of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), Republic of Korea was elected to the President; and Mr. Thach Can, Director General, Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of Viet Nam, which will host the 5th SCA Conference, to the Vice President/President-Elect. Dr. Ir. S. Suparka, Vice Chairman of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), remains to be an officer as the Immediate Past President, and Dr. Kiyoshi Kurokawa, Vice President of SCJ, continues to serve as the Secretary General/Treasurer. As to the some countries which had not yet nominated the new MB member, the Secretariat will confirm them by correspondence.
 - (6) Some policy issues regarding the future activities of SCA were discussed. Participants appreciated the SCA activities besides the annual Conference, such as the participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its Ubuntu initiative, and showed expectation for the future visible contribution not only in Asia but also in the wider arena in collaboration with other international organizations like the United Nations.
6. 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. Ir. S. Suparka, for leading the successful 3rd SCA Conference. Participants expressed high expectation for the 4th SCA Conference to be held in the Republic of Korea, and for future activities of SCA.

* The attachments are not given here.