

Chairperson's Summary

The Eighth Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA) May 27 – 30, 2008 Qingdao, China

I. Organizational Matters

1. The 8th Conference of the Science Council of Asia (SCA) was convened by the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), Qingdao Municipal People's Government and the Science Council of Japan (SCJ) at Shangri-La Hotel in Qingdao, China, from May 27 to 30, 2008, on the theme "Sustainable Development on Marine Resources and Environment." The conference was held in cooperation with the International Forum on Marine Science and Technology and Economic Development (IFMSTED) 2008 which was held during the same time at Fuxin Hotel in Qingdao. During the conference, two sessions of Management Board Meeting, two sessions of General Assembly and five SCA Joint Project Workshops, as well as the Special Session, "Pop Culture in Asia – Comparison of film Culture -" were held at Shangri-La Hotel. Only the Opening Ceremony was held at Fuxin Hotel in cooperation with IFMSTED 2008.

2. The conference was attended by ten member countries: China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. As an observer, a representative of the Pacific Science Association (PSA) participated in the conference.

3. The General Assembly and Management Board were chaired by Prof. Feng Changgen, Executive Secretary of the CAST, President of SCA (2007/2008).

II. Proceedings of the Conference

A. Management Board Meetings and General Assemblies [May 28, May 30]

4. The joint-statement for "Development" by NASAC (the Network of African Science Academies), IANAS (the InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences) and SCA to the G8 on the role of science, technology and innovation in promoting global development was distributed.

5. The 8th SCA Annual Report was approved.
6. Three new SCA Joint Projects were proposed and approved: “Open Data and Knowledge Environment for Innovative Research on Poverty Free and Ecosystem Protection in Asian (ODKE)” proposed by Prof. Liu Chuang (CAS) and Dr. Pakorn Apaphant (GISTDA, Thailand), “Sustainable Water Resources Management in Asia” proposed by Prof. Shinichiro Ohgaki (SCJ) and “Action Plans for Natural Disaster Mitigation” proposed by Prof. Kenji Satake (SCJ).
7. “Current Status of Korean Economy and Desirable Corporate Strategies” was presented by Dr. Dong Ki Kim, National Academy of Sciences (NAS), ROK.
8. Progress Report of “Professional Training Course and Research on Sustainability Science” was presented by Prof. Dr. Mazlin Bin Mokhtar and Dr. Ibrahim Komoo, Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI), Malaysia.
9. Progress Report of “Space and Lithosphere Environment Changes in Indonesia” was presented by Prof. Kiyofumi Yumoto, Science Council of Japan (SCJ).
10. First Strategic Plan Proposal of the Science Council of Asia (From the End of the 2008 Conference until the 2011 Conference) was unanimously approved.
11. It was approved that Prof. Jisnuson Svasti, President, Science Society of Thailand under the Patronage of His Majesty the King (SST) replaced Prof. Montri Chulavatnatol, Vice President, Thai Academy of Science and Technology (TAST) as Management Board member.
12. New SCA officers were elected among the members of the Management Board. Prof. Hong Wang Jin, Deputy Director of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Singapore was elected as President and Prof. Jaime C. Montoya, President of the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) was elected as Vice-President, Prof. Yoichi Muraoka, Member of the SCJ, was elected as Secretary-General / Treasurer.

13. Mr. Andrew Fun, the SCA and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Singapore, presented the draft plan of the 9th SCA Conference in Singapore in 2009. The proposed theme is “Grooming Scientific Talent in Asia.” The conference will be organized jointly by SCA and A*STAR from June 17 to 19, 2009.

14. It was confirmed that the Philippines would be the host country for the 10th SCA Conference in 2010 and Mongolia would be the host country for the 11th SCA Conference in 2011.

B. SCA Joint Project Workshop [May 29]

15. The SCA Joint Projects which are in progress; five projects, namely, “Gender,” “Water,” “Natural Hazards,” “Ocean Security in Asia” and “Honey Bees” concurrently held individual sessions during the morning and afternoon of May 29. The summaries of each session were reported at General Assembly II; Ms. Wati Hermawati from the LIPI gave a presentation on “Women, Small/Medium Scale Enterprises (SME) and ICT,” Prof. Shinichiro Ohgaki from the SCJ gave a presentation on “Sustainable Water Resources Management in Asia,” Prof. Kenji Satake from the SCJ gave a presentation on “Action Plans for Natural Disaster Mitigation,” Prof. Naoya Okuwaki from the SCJ gave a presentation on “Environmental Security of Oceans in Asia,” and Dr. Kiyoshi Kimura from the SCJ gave a presentation on “Development of Bee-keeping using Asian Honeybees.”

C. Special Session [May 29]

16. Special Session: “Pop Culture in Asia – Comparison of Film Culture –” was held in the afternoon of May 29. The summary of the session was also reported at General Assembly II by Prof. Shozo Fujii from the SCJ.