

## Summary of Academy of Science Presidents' Meeting (APM)

**Date:** 14h40-16h40, 2 October, 2017

held for the STS Forum 2017

**Venue:** Room 104, KICC

**Organizer:** Science Council of Japan (SCJ)

**Participants:** Presidents or Representatives from Science Academy or Scientific Organizations in Australia, Bulgaria, Chinese Taipei, Finland, France, Germany, Latvia, Indonesia, India, South Korea, Poland, Sudan, Turkey, UK, USA, Japan and AASSA.

In total 20 participants attended.

**Co-chairs:** Prof. Dr. Satriyo Brodjonegoro, Vice-President of Indonesian Academy of Sciences (AIPI)

Professor Keisuke Hanaki, SCJ former Vice-President

**Theme:** "Promotion of Transdisciplinary Science"

### **Summary of discussion:**

First, Professor Keisuke Hanaki, Co-chair of the Meeting and former Vice-President of Science Council of Japan explained briefly the reason why the theme was selected with the handouts materials. Professor Dr. Satriyo Brodjonegoro, Co-chair of the Meeting followed by expressing an expectation that science, technology and innovation contribute to the process of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Then an introduction by each participant was made. All the participants made their own presentations. Most of the presentations were on how "transdisciplinary science" were recognized scientifically in respective countries of the participants and how they were put into practices. Main points of the entire discussions were as follows:

1. Understanding "transdisciplinary science"
  - (1) "Transdisciplinary science" is a new concept emerged in the 1990s.
  - (2) "Transdisciplinary science" could be defined as a tool "to solve the actual problems for human beings".
  - (3) In most instances, "transdisciplinary science" is useful in promoting and strengthening "multi-disciplinary" and "multi stakeholder collaboration" undertaking.

- (4) “Transdisciplinary science” may be said as a bridge to pave ways to multi sectors to reach a tangible output or result.

## 2. Experiences by each country

- (1) In case of Sudan, “transdisciplinary science” has been already practiced as a tool for a development programme. People and society are requested to participate in the every development programme in which visibility of its process is considered highly essential. Knowledge of the area and relationship with the government are made explicit by giving people respective roles to engage in the programme. Scientific inputs with evidence as well as the latest information are significant to make the programme go forward.
- (2) In order to tackle a dementia in the aging society of the United States, a “transdisciplinary science” is being exercised where a number of patient and financial burdens expand each year. In the Statement announced by the G7 Academies Meeting 2017 in Italy, it stresses “integration of neuroscience with the social and behavioural sciences to improve education and life management as a components of a brain aware society”.
- (3) Since the northeast earthquake and tsunami disasters in Japan in 2011, “transdisciplinary science” approach has marked an immeasurable importance not only to academia but also to the government, industry and people.

## 3. Specialized mechanism to implement “transdisciplinary science”

- (1) There was a programme called “Securing Australia’s Future” successfully conducted by the Australian Council of Learned Academies under which 4 Australian academies operate. Some of the main findings were specialist training as leaders, identifying various interests by creating numerous opportunities in a diversified society of Asia Pacific, etc.
- (2) Academia Sinica established the “Center for Sustainability Science” in 2012. It assists agriculture, climate change, monitoring air pollution, natural disaster, public health and renewable energy projects financially.
- (3) The Royal Society supports “transdisciplinary science” approach policy, partly by financing related projects, awarding prizes, etc. It has been engaging Future Earth research project over the decade.

## 4. Others

- (1) There is no established “transdisciplinary science” model existing to solve similar

issues. Accordingly, there is no common “transdisciplinary science” approach to achieve 17 objectives of SDGs recognized by each country.

- (2) Profesor Dr. tryo Brodjonegoro, Co-chair of this Meeting, concluded the Meeting by stating that “transdisciplinary science” approach should be enhanced as a method to mitigate the problems in the world where the general public could engage in.

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