

**Address at the Occasion of the 10th FNCA Coordinators Meeting  
Held in Tokyo on March 11, 2009**

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Chairman, Japan Atomic Energy Commission**

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome you all to the 10<sup>th</sup> FNCA coordinators' meeting here in Tokyo. It is also a great pleasure to congratulate the tenth (10th) anniversary of the coordinators meeting.

As you know, the FNCA has attached importance to voluntary initiatives of cooperation among experts of member countries to utilize nuclear science and technology for development in each country. The role of the FNCA has been to facilitate the formulation of active networks for partnership and mutual learning among experts and relevant institutions in member countries by drawing up cooperative projects.

The JAEC has been firmly behind the coordinators' meeting since its inception. Over ten years, the meeting has played a pivotal role in steering the major activities of the FNCA, taking up challenging topics in the various fields of research reactor utilization, radiation application for agriculture, medical care and industrial use, radioactive waste management etc. that is relevant to this region and formulating various cooperative projects to be promoted in the FNCA framework. In doing so, it has done a great deal to promote mutually beneficial cooperative activities among scientists and engineers who have devoted to the development of the welfare of the people in the region and built lasting links among organization and peoples responsible for the research and development of nuclear energy in the region.

I understand that the FNCA currently entertains eleven (11) projects in the eight (8) application fields and you will review in this meeting the accomplishment of four projects, mutation breeding of banana, Cyclotron and PET in medicine, electron accelerator, and nuclear safety culture, which have concluded their activities in 2008, in addition to the routine check and review of the current status of the other on-going projects.

You will also explore possible means to strengthen linkage with potential end-users in

the radiation application. It is extremely important to be accountable to the tax payers about the merit of research and the most direct way to measure the merit is to listen to the voice of end-users of new products and production processes that should contribute to the enhancement of welfare of the people.

I am confident that with the full support of the FNCA member countries, the coordinators' meeting will be able to continue playing its vital role of providing far-sighted guidance on the promotion of high-quality cooperative projects, which are a core activity of the FNCA. I look forward to seeing your meeting embark on its second decade with fresh confidence in this respect.

At the same time, I feel it my duty to point out that big challenges lie ahead as you are requested to develop your response, possibly including the recalibration of the portfolio of the cooperative projects, as an important new agenda to facilitate the cooperation for the development and management of nuclear power infrastructure has been delivered to you at the Ministerial meetings in the recent past, including the 9th Ministerial-level meeting held in Manila last year, which was a successful meeting owing to the hospitality of the Philippine Government to which I would like to express our sincere thanks.

One of your quick responses was the second panel on the development of nuclear safety infrastructure, of which summary and follow up action are to be discussed in this morning and you are to have the panel to study the approach toward infrastructure development for nuclear power in this afternoon. I believe that sharing of practical information and actual experiences among senior officials and experts in charge of the relevant area is beneficial for countries which are in preparation of introducing nuclear power as well as countries which are operating nuclear power plants, as I believe the power of diversity to create better groups, firms and societies.

I also expect that case studies on the Clean Development Mechanisms or CDM which will be discussed in the afternoon today will contribute to sharing common views on the issues among FNCA member countries and possible formulation of joint actions to convince international community on this matter at the occasion of COP-15 in this year 2009, on December 7 to 18 at Copenhagen.

It is to your credit that you have made steady progress in the establishment of Human Resource Development Database. Having said that, I would like to point out that the establishment of the database is not the final goal but the starting event of the second

decade with confidence that we can work together.

Recently, the world economy has been facing a severe recession. Although it is not known at this moment when the economy will start again, it is known that it will start again. Therefore I believe that it is not necessary to modify the long-term prospective of the energy sector due to the economic downtrend that we are living now. In particular, as the planning horizon for nuclear energy is of long-term in nature, the interest in nuclear energy will not and should not be affected by this encounter, not to mention the capacity of a nuclear power plant construction project to create a large scale employment, that is most needed at present.

With that, I wish you a successful meeting and a pleasant stay in Tokyo.

Thank you for your attention.