

OPENING REMARKS

*Keisuke Senta**

Honourable guests, distinguished experts and participants, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to announce the opening of the Tenth Regional Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries. I would like to extend my heartfelt welcome to our honourable guests, distinguished experts and participants who have come to join this significant forum.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to the government of Indonesia, especially to the Attorney General's Office of the Republic of Indonesia and the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), for their great contribution and assistance in co-hosting this seminar.

I attended the first and the second Seminars on Good Governance held in 2007 and 2008 in Thailand, when I was working in the UNODC Asia Pacific Regional Office. At those times, the UNODC was also the co-organizer, and I presented at these seminars. I am also personally very glad to attend this tenth seminar as the Director of UNAFEI, in the belief that this seminar has surely promoted cooperation among Southeast Asian countries for the purpose of developing effective countermeasures against corruption.

This time, the main theme of the seminar is "Contemporary Measures for Effective International Cooperation". In my keynote speech, I will speak in detail about this, but here I would like to note that, nowadays, international cooperation is of great importance to the fight against corruption. Not only legal systems but also actual practices are important when considering the criminal justice response to corruption. Sharing actual cases is the most effective way for practitioners to learn the current situations and challenges in each country.

I hope this seminar will strengthen international cooperation and help each participant clear higher hurdles in the investigation of corruption cases in the future.

Thank you very much for your attention.

* Director, United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.