

OPENING REMARKS

*Keisuke Senta**

Your Excellency, UMEDA Kunio, Ambassador of Japan to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Mr. Tran Con Phan, honourable Deputy Prosecutor General of the Supreme People's Procuracy of Viet Nam, honourable guests, distinguished experts and participants, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to announce the opening of the eleventh Regional Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries. I would like to extend my heartfelt welcome to our honourable guests, distinguished speakers 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 Viet Nam, especially to the Supreme People's Procuracy of Viet Nam, for their great contribution and assistance in co-hosting this seminar.

I attended the first and the second Seminar 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 eleventh seminar as the Director of UNAFEI, as well as the tenth seminar in Indonesia last year, 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 "Best Practices in Anti-Corruption: A Decade of Institutional and Practical Development in Southeast Asia". UNAFEI has hosted the Regional Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries for 10 years to prevent and combat corruption in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption. I believe it is worth reviewing and recognizing the developments in the field of anti-corruption over the past decade on the occasion of the 11th seminar.

I look forward to seeing this seminar provide a useful forum to exchange expertise and knowledge in our common endeavour against corruption, contributing further to the promotion of good governance in Southeast Asia.

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.