

CHAIR'S SUMMARY

1. The Fifth Regional Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries, hosted by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), was held at the Main Conference Room in the Ministry of Justice of Japan, in Tokyo from 7 to 9 December 2011.
2. Officials and experts from the following countries and organizations attended the seminar:

Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, The Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, the Independent Commission Against Corruption of Hong Kong (ICAC), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Financial Services Agency Government of Japan, the Japan Fair Trade Commission, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Ministry of Finance of Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and the National Personnel Authority of Japan.
3. Mr. Tatsuya Sakuma, Director of UNAFEI, made an opening speech, expressing his gratitude to the above countries and organizations for their participation.
4. Mr. Haruhiko Ukawa, Deputy Director of UNAFEI, provided an overview on combating corruption, emphasized the importance of both prevention and enforcement, and introduced the various objectives of the seminar.
5. In the presentations by visiting experts, UNODC gave a comprehensive presentation on the universal legal framework of preventing corruption, in particular the UN prevention measures, Chapter II of the UN Convention against Corruption. The presentation also elaborated on the implementation of the UNCAC and the importance of international legal cooperation. UNODC pointed out the importance of partnerships between the public and private sectors and awareness-raising of society at large to prevent corruption. ICAC explained its strategy, in particular prevention of corruption, to keep the Hong Kong SAR clean. ICAC emphasized the three-pronged interactive strategy: law enforcement, prevention, and education. The presentation showed effective ways to prevent corruption through different aspects: the system approach and the human approach.

6. In the individual presentations, the participants outlined their respective countries' various efforts in preventing and fighting corruption. Each organization from each country expressed its commitment to prevent or fight corruption through domestic legislation, administrative systems, and enforcement. A general consensus also existed on the need for strengthening of prevention of corruption, according to the respective countries' backgrounds.
7. Advisers invited from organizations of Japan presented preventive efforts undertaken by their respective organizations. The Japanese Fair Trade Commission and Ministry of Finance explained how to ensure objectivity and competition in public procurement and how to prevent corruption. The National Personnel Authority and Financial Services Agency of Japan showed how to ensure staff integrity.
8. A delegate from the Japan International Cooperation Agency explained her agency's approach to the linked concepts of good governance and anti-corruption efforts in development assistance work. A delegate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan gave a presentation on the G20 anti-Corruption Action Plan, which recognizes the importance of building upon the existing mechanisms of the UNCAC and the OECD Convention.
9. During the Meeting, the participants shared and identified the following views and challenges:
 - The importance of early ratification and full implementation of the UNCAC.
 - The importance of strategies that can limit opportunities for corruption by promoting the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of governmental businesses.
 - The necessity of prompt punishment of those who commit corruption to deter people from corrupt acts and to show the governments' strong will to fight corruption.
 - Anti-corruption efforts require a whole governmental and multidisciplinary approach that consists of prevention and enforcement. The prevention of corruption and enforcement are part of the effort to eradicate corruption.

- Learning from other countries' experiences and looking into emerging good practices are useful to better prevent and fight corruption.

Tokyo, 9 December 2011