

**JAPAN/IIAS JOINT PANEL
ON
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

Time and Date 15:45 – 17:45 11 July 2001

Venue Athens, Greece

Conference site

APHRODITE ASTIR PALACE Aegean Hall

Theme

FROM GOVERNMENT TO
GOVERNANCE:
EXPERIENCES AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES
IN
THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Introduction

The end of the cold war and the technological development in the fields of transportation, computer and telecommunication have promoted the exchange of goods and services, as well as the people and information across the national boundaries. Businesses have been operating more freely to seek more profitable markets at the global level. Moreover, inter-governmental negotiations undertaken in the world conferences of such as the Ministerial Conference of the WTO (World Trade Organization) and COP6 (The Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) have posed great impact on the domestic policies of the involved governments. The European Union, a supra-national organization, which has confiscated part of the national sovereignty from the member states, has been established to function toward further integration. Every government in the world has now to cope with the changes that such globalization has brought about.

Likewise, the international capital movement has been accelerated to gain as much profit as possible, and every government is therefore facing to compete with others to attract the capital movement so as to realize economic affluence among the people of the country. On the other hand, public administration of one country is being internationally tested from the viewpoint of efficiency and effectiveness because the quality of a government greatly affects the business activities and the profits from them.

Accumulated financial deficits in the developed countries and the shortage of development assistance funds in the developing countries have forced the governments to reform their public management in order for them to become more efficient and effective. The people's needs toward the government have become complicated and increasingly diversified because of the social and economic changes. In addition, the citizens have become eager to participate in policy implementation processes such as for the public service delivery. Under these circumstances, various actors

such as local governments, private enterprises, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and citizens have come to share the roles hitherto played by the central government especially in the fields of service delivery and management of public institutions.

Thus, the centrally controlled system of government has gradually transformed into networking system of various actors with conflicting interests. Such changes are to be called “from government to governance.” In this networking system, the evaluation of the results should be acutely required as various actors are involved and their objectives and interests are different from one another.

After the financial crisis of 1997, the Asian nations became obliged to review and reform the governments from the perspective of ensuring more efficient and transparent public administration. Partly because of such review and reform, NGOs and citizens came to be involved in public service delivery to cope with the needs of the beneficiaries in more efficient and effective way. In such undertakings, the role of NGOs and citizens should be put in proper place and the jointly organized activities by the governments and non-governmental bodies should be evaluated from the standpoints of rule of law, and legitimacy.

In light of these circumstances, we will hold this Asia-Pacific Panel to look into any commonality in the movement from government to governance among the countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and to discuss about how the evaluation should be organized for the networking system of governance as well as the future direction of such networking system.

Keynote Speaker

- ▶ Mr. Akira Iriyama
President, The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan

Panelists

- ▶ Dr. Kosuke Oyama
Professor, Keio University, Japan
- ▶ Prof. Mohammad Mohabbat Khan
Member, Bangladesh Public Service Commission,
Bangladesh
- ▶ Mr. Xu Songtao
Vice-Minister, Ministry of Personnel, China
- ▶ Dr. Khai Leong Ho
Senior Lecturer, National University of Singapore,
Singapore
- ▶ Mr. Hatem Aly Labib Gabr
Kosheri, Rashed & Riad, Legal Consultants & Attorneys
at Law, Egypt
- ▶ Mr. Heinrich Siedentopf
Professor, Deutsche Hochschule fuer
Verwaltungswissenschaften Speyer, Germany

Chairperson

- ▶ Mr. Hiromitsu Kataoka
Professor, Waseda University, Japan
(Assisted by Dr. Hiroko Kudo, Waseda University, Japan)

Vice-chairperson

- ▶ Dr. Itoko Suzuki
Professor, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan

Organization of the Panel

- 15:45-16:00 Keynote speech
- 16:00-16:40 Presentation by Dr. Oyama, Prof. Khan,
Mr. Xu and Dr. Ho
- 16:40-17:00 Comments by Mr. Gabr and
Mr. Siedentopf
- 17:00-17:40 Discussion
- 17:40-17:45 Conclusion by the President

Organizers

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