# The 21st AsiaConstruct Conference Minutes of Leaders' Meeting

Date: 24 November 2016 (Thursday)

**Time:** 4:30 PM - 17:15 PM

Venue: Room "Bara", Level 3, Hotel Mielparque Tokyo, Minato-ku, TokyoPresent: Prof. Michael Anson Hong Kong

Prof. Francis K.W. Wong Hong Kong

Dr. PR Swarup India Prof. Djoko Wahyu Karmiadji Indonesia Indonesia Prof. Krishna Suryanto Pribadi Dr. Chong WOn Kim Korea Dr. SeJong Wang Korea Sr. Sariah Abd Karib Malaysia Mr. Hemantha Kumara Balachandra Sri Lanka Dr. Van Bo Pham Vietnam Mr. Masamichi Tokunaga (Chairperson) Japan Mr. Masaya Shimada Japan

#### **Minutes**

	Meeting Agendas
1	Confirmation of the Meeting Minutes of the 20th AsiaConstruct Conference leaders'
	meeting
	The minutes of the 20th AsiaConstruct leaders' meeting were confirmed without
	amendment.
2	Country/Region Invitation
	Mr. Masamichi Tokunaga (Chairperson) briefly explained the story of inviting
	member countries/region.
	- Japan sent prior invitation to all member countries/region except Mainland
	China, Mongolia and New Zealand. Japan could not get contact with these 3
	countries.
	- Japan failed to invite Singapore, Australia and The Philippines.
	- Singapore informed Japan that they could not send a delegate due to their heavy
	work schedule.
	- The Philippines showed their intention to participate in the conference, but
	finally didn't. Japan requested the next host to continue to invite them.
	- Thanks to kind assistance of Hong Kong, Japan could contact with Australia.
	Japan inquired them whether they would host the conference in 2017 as they

had indicated the intention in the 20th leaders' meeting. Australia concluded they couldn't host the conference in 2017.

#### 3 Matters arising

### • The new joint study

Dr. PR Swarup, the head of the delegates from India suggested that AsiaConstruct Conference should have new studies or projects in addition to the current activities in order to put more value on the conference.

Prof. Michael Anson, the head of the delegates from Hong Kong supported the opinion of Dr. Swarup, and added that new studies should be backed by RICE's agreement.

Dr. Swarup proposed that RICE would take a role of steering the new studies, and consider the method how to carry out the studies.

Prof. Francis Wong, the delegate from Hong Kong emphasized that the existing framework of AsiaConstruct would still be utilized on the new studies. In case it would be difficult to select the topic for the new studies which would be acceptable for all member countries, bilateral studies or studies by particular countries which are interested in could be carried out as tests, Prof. Wong added.

Dr. Swarup proposed human resources issue as the first topic of the new study because it could be shared by all member countries beyond the varied background of respective organizations.

As conclusion, RICE would consider the method of the new study and the topic, and propose to all member countries based on the discussion in this meeting.

## • Invitation of a new member country

Mr. Tokunaga expressed the concern about current decrease of members of AsiaConstruct, and proposed that AsiaConstruct would try to invite Myanmar as a new member.

Mr. Hemantha Kumara Balachandra, the delegate from Sri Lanka offered that he could provide the information and a contact point of possible counterpart of Myanmar.

As conclusion, RICE would try to approach the counterpart and research its intention and possibility for participation in AsiaConstruct.

4	Confirmation of the host of the 22 <sup>nd</sup> conference in 2017 and the 23 <sup>rd</sup> in 2018
	The chair explained that there was no confirmed plan for the future host countries as the result that Australia declined to host the conference in 2018.  Japan proposed Korea for the next host country in consideration of the cancellation of 2015's conference which had been to be hosted by Korea.
	Korea willingly agreed with the proposal, and the leaders meeting confirmed that Korea would be the host of the $22^{nd}$ conference to be held in 2017.
	Japan also proposed Malaysia as the host of 2017's conference by following the recent rotation of the host among member countries.
	Malaysia agreed that it would host 2018's conference, and the leaders meeting confirmed that Malaysia would be host the 23 <sup>rd</sup> conference to be held in 2018.
5	Outline of the 22 <sup>nd</sup> AsiaConstruct Conference
	Dr. Kim Chong Won, the head of the delegates from Korea, mentioned that he would provide the details of the $22^{\rm nd}$ conference to be held in Korea to all member countries in around March 2017.
6	AOB