Round Table Discussion Topic 2 : Policy and Progress of FNCA in the Future

Talking Points

The Introductory remark by Dr. Machi as the FNCA Coordinator is to be referred to the following two points: "FNCA Cooperation Projects in the Future" and "Enhancement of Discussion of Policy in FNCA".

1. Future Cooperation under the FNCA

(1) FNCA activities including projects should be designed, planned and carried out to meet needs and interest of the member countries. Active commitment by each country is necessary for it.

(2) In order to effectively use achievement of these activities, tangible efforts in each country, for example, the collaboration and linkage with potential end-users and improved information dissemination are necessary.

(3) FNCA activities are based on the vision of partnership. Currently, Japan, Australia and Malaysia host the projects. More countries should be encouraged to initiate and host FNCA activities.

(4) An appropriate support system should be established by the government and research institutions in each country to promote the project activity efficiently and effectively through nomination of responsible project leaders and implementation teams. The FNCA coordinator also should play responsible and efficient roles.

(5) Moreover FNCA has started in 2004 the Panel on "Role of Nuclear Energy for Sustainable Development in Asia" under the three-year scheme following the result of the discussion at the last Ministerial Level Meeting. Because of the recent sharp increase of oil price, it is more seriously recognized that the strategy for stable supply of energy is indispensable for sustainable socio-economic development. In this context, it is important to first discuss the cooperation program for studying the role and application of nuclear energy for the improvement of sustainability of energy supply.

2. Enhancement of Discussion of Policy Issues

(1) At the past Ministerial Level Meetings, Round Table Discussion took up the following various issues: "Promotion of Nuclear Applications", "Nuclear Safety", "Sustainable Development and Nuclear Energy", "Cooperation of Radiation Applications in the Future", and "Human Resources Development in the field of Nuclear". It is an effective mechanism to discuss common policy issues for the FNCA countries at the high-level such as the Ministerial Level Meeting, which will contribute to solve the problems of each country and promote mutual cooperation in

the region.

(2) To enhance the discussion of policy in FNCA, it is necessary to consider further ways of discussion at the Ministerial Level Meeting, including the usage of such forms as the Panel on "Role of Nuclear Energy for Sustainable Development in Asia".

(3) It is important to discuss and determine the themes to be taken up for Discussion of Policy at the Ministerial Meeting among the common issues for the FNCA member countries such as "Strategy for Sustainable Development", "Human Resources Development", "Nuclear Safety", and "Nuclear Non-Proliferation".