

## **ADDRESSES**

## Welcome Address

Yasuo Kitahara  
President  
University of Tsukuba

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to Tsukuba city and to our campus. As a president of the host university, it is my great pleasure and honor to have my address for the opening of 1999 Tsukuba Asian Seminar on Agricultural Education (1999 TASAE).

University of Tsukuba is proud of its nomination by UNESCO as an associate center of Asia and the Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development (APEID). I understand this seminar is an annual meeting in series since 1979, which means today is the 20th birthday of this seminar.

In Japan, we specially celebrate the memorial 20th age as a grown-up year. I would like to express my sincere congratulation on this seminar's grown-up. Actually, our university also celebrated last year the 25th anniversary. So we think this meeting is one of the important histories for our university.

University of Tsukuba is located at Tsukuba city in Ibaraki prefecture, about 60 km far from the center of Tokyo, where is the first science city, set up by the Japanese government 3 decades ago. Our university as well as various scientific institutes including engineering, environmental and agricultural fields gathered here and has made a continuous rapid growth in science. On the other hand, Tsukuba is also in a rural and mostly agricultural community. You can find some huge areas of rice field and upland field, orchard and plastic houses surrounding our university. Tsukuba is thought as one of the very promising cities toward the coming next century in Japan.

I heard the theme of TASAE is focused on the strategies for linking agricultural and environmental education for the 21st century. I believe the study of agriculture and environment will be more important in 21st century.

I sincerely hope that you, experts of agricultural and environmental research and education, will have a fruitful discussion and information exchange at this seminar.

Finally I wish all of you will enjoy your stay here in Tsukuba.

Thank you.

## Opening Address I

Kazuo Akiyama  
Japanese National Commission for UNESCO  
Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture

Professor Kitahara, President, University of Tsukuba,  
Professor Sakai, Director, Agricultural and Forestry Research Center,  
Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor for me to say a few words on behalf of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Education, Science, Sport and Culture (MONBUSHO) at the successful opening of the 1999 Tsukuba Asian Seminar on Agricultural Education (TASAE).

First of All, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all the participants from Asia and the Pacific region. I would like to congratulate President Kitahara, as well as all members of organizing committee in University of Tsukuba, for the excellent organization of this seminar. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Munjanganja coming from Bangkok, UNESCO Principal Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

The Agricultural and Forestry Research Center, University of Tsukuba has been contributing development of technical and vocational education in Asia and the Pacific region in cooperation with PROAP, organizing this “Tsukuba Asian Seminar on Agricultural Education (TASAE)”, as an Associated Center of Asia and the Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development (APEID) since 1979.

In UNESCO programme, technical and vocational education will be reinforced in the light of the conclusions of the “Second International Congress on Technical and Vocational Education” held in Seoul in this April. Its recommendations mentioned that technical and vocational education, as an integral component of life-long learning, has a crucial role to play in the twenty-first century, which will be the era of knowledge, information and communication.

In this context, the theme of this seminar, “Application of global and regional information for the innovation of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries”, is important for further development and innovation of vocational education in the field of agriculture. I sincerely hope that the participants will have a fruitful exchange of experiences and opinions, and that the discussion in this seminar will further strengthen the regional co-operation for the development of technical and vocational education in the field of agriculture.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Sakai and all other people who have devoted themselves to the preparation of this seminar. In addition, I hope that all participants will have a pleasant and fruitful experience here in Tsukuba and a most successful seminar for all.

Thank you.

## Opening Address II

Naoki Sakai  
Director, Agricultural and  
Forestry Research Center  
University of Tsukuba  
(Associated Center of APEID)

Good afternoon, distinguished guests and participants, ladies and gentlemen.

As a chairman of the organizing committee, I express a great pleasure to welcome the participants of the 1999 Tsukuba Asian Seminar on Agricultural Education called as TASAE. Agricultural and Forestry Research Center which is one of the educational centers of University of Tsukuba, has been the host for these annual seminars since 1979. Our center was designated by UNESCO as an associated center for the Asian and Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development called as APEID.

Now we are standing in the mid year of the sixth term (1997-2001) of TASAE whose common theme is “Innovative strategies for linking agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries for the 21st century”. In this 1999 TASAE, we planed the symposium entitled “Application of the global and regional information for the innovation in Asian-Pacific countries”.

For the next generations, we need to develop a mutual understanding of the present situations, problems, prospects and practical implementation programs for agricultural education. This seminar will give us the opportunity to discuss the situations in each country. I sincerely hope this seminar will be a venue for accomplishing these purposes.

I hear that UNESCO was born in November 4th, 1946 after the Second World War. So, November is thought as a memorial month for UNESCO. I want to especially thank the Japanese National Commission of UNESCO for the continual support and assistance. I also my appreciation to the members of the various departments of University of Tsukuba that have helped to organize and make this seminar possible.

I sincerely hope can enjoy our participation in this seminar and accomplish a great toward improving agricultural education in our countries. I also hope you enjoy your stay in Japan during this beautiful fall season.

Thank you.