Reforming International Institutions – Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century

January 21, 2009, 14:00 – 18:00

Elizabeth Rose Hall, United Nations University, Tokyo

Organized by UNU and the British Embassy in Tokyo

Programme

MC: Takejiro Suyoshi, Special Advisor in the Asia-Pacific Region, United Nations Environment Programme

1400: Welcome by Konrad Osterwalder, UNU Rector
       Video Message from Mark Malloch Brown, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

       Simon Fraser, Director General, Europe and Globalisation, FCO

1445: Q&A

1500: “A Year for Multilateral Reform”
       David Steven, Managing Director, River Path Associates

1530: Q&A

1545: Tea & Coffee

1615: “Reform of International Financial Institutions”
       Masahiro Kawai, Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute

1645: Q&A

1700: “Change in the World Structure and How to improve Global Governance”
       Hitoshi Tanaka, Senior Fellow, Japan Center for International Exchange

1730: Q&A

1745: Closing Remarks

1800: Ends.
Speaker Profiles

Simon Fraser

Simon Fraser is Director General, Europe and Globalisation in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and is a member of the FCO Board. Before taking up his current position in February 2008, Mr Fraser was Chief of Staff to European Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson. He was closely involved in negotiation of the Doha Round and in formulating the Commission’s new external competitiveness policies and Global Europe agenda. In this job he built on his experience as Deputy Chief of Staff to European Trade Commissioner Leon Brittan from 1996 - 1999, when he was dealing in particular with EU/US trade relations. In the FCO, he has served as Director for the Middle East and North Africa, as Director for Strategy and Innovation, including policy planning, and as Political Counsellor in the British Embassy in Paris.

David Steven

David Steven is a policy analyst, strategic consultant and researcher. He is managing director of the knowledge consultancy, River Path Associates (www.riverpath.com) and a Demos associate, where he runs a programme on The New Diplomacy. In 2008, Mr Steven was commissioned to explore the future of multilateralism by the British Prime Minister for presentation to heads of state at the Progressive Governance Summit. Subsequently, he co-authored a paper on multilateral responses to the global financial crisis, with New York University’s Alex Evans. He presented on the politics of global climate deal at the United Nations University G8 symposium on climate in July 2008. This presentation provided the basis for a study for the UK’s Department for International Development on the global institutions needed to support a post-2012 global deal on climate. Mr Steven edits the website, Global Dashboard, (http://globaldashboard.org), which explores global risks and foreign policy responses.

Hitoshi Tanaka

Hitoshi Tanaka is Senior Fellow at the Japan Center for International Exchange and was Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan until August 2005. He has also been a visiting professor at the Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Tokyo, since April 2006. He had previously been Director-General of the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau (2001–02) and the Economic Affairs Bureau (2000–01); Consul-General in San Francisco (1998–2000); and Deputy Director-General of the North American Affairs Bureau (1996–98). He was Director for Policy Coordination of the Foreign Policy Bureau, Political Minister at the Japanese Embassy in London (1990–93), a research associate at the IISS, London (1989–90), Director for North East Asian Affairs (1987–89), and Director for North American Affairs (1985–87). He has a B.A. in law from Kyoto University and B.A./M.A. in PPE from Oxford University. Mr Tanaka has contributed many articles to various newspapers and monthly magazines. His latest publication is Kokka to gaiko [The Nation and Diplomacy] (2005).

Masahiro Kawai

Masahiro Kawai joined ADBI in January 2007 after serving as Head of ADB's Office of Regional Economic Integration (OREI) and Special Advisor to the ADB President in charge of regional economic cooperation and integration. Prior to his assumption as Head of OREI, Mr Kawai was a Professor at the University of Tokyo's Institute of Social Science. Mr Kawai also worked as Chief Economist for the World Bank's East Asia and the Pacific Region from 1998 to 2001, and as Deputy Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs of Japan's Ministry of Finance from 2001 to 2003. He began his career as a Research Fellow at Brookings Institution and subsequently at Johns Hopkins University and the, University of Tokyo. He served as a consultant at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and at the International Monetary Fund, both in Washington, DC. He was also Special Research Advisor at the Institute of Fiscal and Monetary Policy in Japan's Ministry of Finance, and a visiting researcher at the Bank of Japan's Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies and at the Economic Planning Agency's Economic Research Institute. Mr Kawai has published a number of books and numerous articles on economic globalization, on regional financial integration and cooperation in East Asia, including lessons from the Asian crisis, and on the international currency system.