



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY



Programme of Symposium 2006

Contemplating on Sustainability

20 October 2006

U Thant International Conference Hall
UN House, Tokyo Japan

- Organized by: United Nations University, UNU- Zero Emissions Forum
Co-organized by: 168th Committee on Zero Emission of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
Toyohashi University of Technology 21st COE Ecological Engineering for Homeostatic Human Activities
Supported by: American Embassy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Environment, Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), Nihon Keizai Shinbun, Yomiuri Shinbun, Asahi Shinbun, Mainichi Shinbun
Participants: Company managers, Managers from environmental departments, managing, design, and production departments, Local governments, Environmental NGOs and NPOs, Research and educational institutions
Capacity: About 300
Admission: Free (non-members who wish to attend the reception, a fee will be charged)

Background

The new concept of “Sustainability” is becoming a keyword in order for human beings to live in harmony with the earth and its limitations.

The affluence of our lives today is being sustained by our over-consuming the limited natural resources of the earth and continually spoiling nature by the emission of toxic wastes. As a result, there is fear that our future generations may be compelled to live in a very poor environment.

A new utilization of the earth is now required, in which all the human generations of the past, present, and future can continue to receive and enjoy, fairly and impartially, the earth’s bountiful blessings. In the word “Sustainability” all these wishes are included. In order to fulfill these wishes, we are to recognize that the earth is limited, to conserve the ecosystem to its fullness, and to give due consideration for our future generations so that they may benefit.

In order to create a sustainable society, we need a new philosophy, principle, and action beyond our present thinking, lifestyle, and business behavior. In some areas, however, various attempts towards this aim have already been made.

At this year’s symposium, we hope to discuss together with professionals from abroad these new concepts, ideas, behavior patterns, and furthermore concrete suggestions from wider points of view.

We look forward to welcoming many people who are interested in “Sustainability”.

(Japanese-English simultaneous interpretation will be provided.)

Zero Emissions Symposium 2006

- Contemplating on Sustainability -

Friday, 20 October 2006

MC: UNU-ZEF Secretariat

9:30 Opening Remarks: Hiroyuki Fujimura
Chairman, United Nations University Zero Emissions Forum

9:45 Welcoming Remarks: Hans van Ginkel
Rector, United Nations University

10:00 Keynote Speech: "Finding Hope in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment"
Richard B. Norgaard
Professor
Energy and Resources Group, University of California

Theme 1: Genuine Progress Indicator

11:00 "Research on Scientific Foundation of Sustainability"
Ryoichi Yamamoto, Tokyo University

11:45 "Sustainability and True Happiness"
Terue Ohashi, Reitaku University

12:30 Lunch break

Theme 2: Stationary-State Economy

13:45 "Sustainability and Japan at the Age of Population Decline"
Tadahiro Mitsuhashi, Chiba University of Commerce

14:30 "Sustainability and Environmental Management in Businesses"
Kozo Horiuchi, Hosei University

15:15 Break

15:30 "Sustainability and Social Economic System"
Kazuhiro Ueda, Kyoto University

Theme 3: Ecological Footprint

16:15 "Sustainability Accounting with the Ecological Footprint"
Justin Kitzes
Manager
National Accounts Program, Global Footprint Network

17:00 "Ecological Footprint and Its Applications in the Real World"
Yoshihiko Wada, Doshisha University

17:45 Closing

17:45 Reception (Venue: UNU 2F Reception Hall)
(Please note that the programme is subject to change due to circumstances.)