

Series of Seminars on the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster

- Initiatives for recovery from the natural disaster and future outlook for Japanese-Taiwanese relations

On May 6 (Fri.), a seminar was held at the Ambassador Hotel Taipei under the title "Initiatives for Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster and Future Outlook for Japanese-Taiwanese Relations". On March 11, the eastern part of Japan was hit by an earthquake of unprecedented magnitude and followed by the crippling of a nuclear power plant. As a result, Japan incurred tremendous damage and loss in both societal and economic terms. Soon after the disaster, the government of Taiwan, which has strong business ties with Japan and the deepest relations of mutual goodwill, made contributions topping 16 billion yen, exhibiting keen interest in measures for the recovery of and closer interaction with Japan. In this connection, Science and Technology Interchange Committee, Association of East Asian Relations, which is an institute of the Taiwanese government, held this seminar together with the Association for Taiwan-Japan Cooperation on Industrial Technology and the NPO Venture Support Mechanism TSUNAMI. After the seminar, persons who had participated as lecturers paid a courtesy call on Taiwanese Vice-President Vincent Siew. The following is a brief outline of the seminar and the proceeding.

■ Time and date: 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon, May 6 (Fri.), 2011

- "Initiatives for Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster and Future Outlook for Japanese-Taiwanese Relations"

■ Venue: Ambassador Hotel Taipei, Taiwan

■ Organizer: Science and Technology Interchange Committee, Association of East Asian Relations

■ Advisory Group: Department of Industrial Technology, Ministry of Economic Affairs

■ Executive Group: Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research

■ Co-sponsors: Association for Taiwan-Japan Cooperation on Industrial Technology and NPO Venture Support Mechanism TSUNAMI

【Science and Technology Interchange Committee, Association of East Asian Relations】

In April 2003, the Taiwanese government instituted the Science and Technology Interchange Committee under the Association of East Asian Relations to bring the resources and energies from industry, government, academia, and research organs to bear in the promotion of interchange and cooperation between Taiwan and Japan in the sphere of science and technology. The Commission proceeded to organize the Committee while inviting leaders of Taiwanese industry, government, academia, and research to take part. Mr. Vincent Siew (currently Vice-President of Taiwan) was appointed to serve as the Committee's first chairman. The executive duties were left to the Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research. The Committee has since been discharging its mission of promoting projects of interchange in the sphere of science and technology from perspectives that are equally high-order, comprehensive, and strategic; heightening the level of such interchange between Taiwan and Japan; and building ties of substantive cooperation. At present, it is chaired by Mr. Tsay, who also acts as a national policy advisor. Ever since its establishment, the Committee has supported events including the Taiwan-Japan Science and Technology Forum, a series of forums held on specific scientific and technological themes, meetings for technical and business talks, delegations to Japan by representatives of certain industries or on specific themes, and mutual visits by individuals for interchange. Through these activities, it has assisted the forging of a wide range of close and friendly ties with Japanese counterparts in the industrial, governmental, academic, and research field. In addition, it has laid a firm foundation for the promotion of scientific and technological interchange with Japan and the materialization of ties of cooperation of practical benefit to both sides. Building on this foundation, it organized the Association for Taiwan-Japan Cooperation on Industrial Technology with the cooperation of various domestic sectors, and asked entities including the Taiwan-Japan Cooperation on Industrial Technology and the Venture Support Mechanism TSUNAMI (both being Japanese NPOs) to serve as partners in cooperative activities. It is steadily working for interchange and cooperation between Taiwanese and Japanese firms grounded in the actual demand and earnings base of both respective industries.

(The above text was excerpted from materials distributed at the seminar.)

【Outline of the Event Details】

9:30 - 9:40 AM : **Opening remarks by the organizer**

--- Tsay Ching-yen, Chairman, Science and Technology Interchange Committee, Association of East Asian Relations

Guest message

--- Kazuhiro Haraguchi, former Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications and National Diet Representative

9:40 - 10:30 AM : **Keynote speech**

"Initiatives for Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster and Future Outlook for Japanese-Taiwanese Relations"

--- Jitsuro Terashima, President, Japan Research Institute, Ltd.

10:50 - 12:00: **Panel discussion**

• Monitor: Jitsuro Terashima, President, Japan Research Institute, Ltd.

• Panelists: Kazuhiro Haraguchi, National Diet Representative; Motohisa Furukawa, National Diet Representative; Kenzo Fujisue, National Diet Councillor; Tsutomu Takamura, National Diet Representative; Masamitsu Naito, former Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications; Takeo Minomiya, Chairman, TSUNAMI Network Partners Corporation



Mr. Tsay Ching-yen



Mr. Kazuhiro Haraguchi



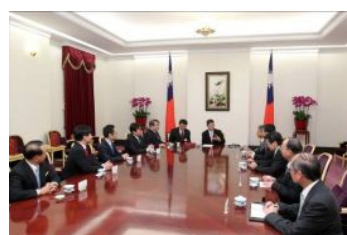
Mr. Jitsuro Terashima



Panel discussion



Exclusive discussion



At the Presidential Office Building

【Participants at the Exclusive Discussion】

- Japanese participants: Panel discussion participants etc.
- Taiwanese participants: Senior officials of the Taiwanese government, leaders of financial circles, and leaders of noteworthy research organizations, including the following.
 - San Gee, Deputy Minister, Council for Economic Planning and Development, Executive Yuan
 - Theodore M. Huang, Honorary President, National Association of Industry and Commerce, Taiwan
 - Shaw Dai-gee, President, Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research
 - Other

【Comment】At the seminar, the Japanese participants voiced their thoughts on the situation in Japan in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake and prospects for recovery, as well as descriptions of perspectives and approaches by members of the National Diet. The Taiwanese participants furnished valuable insights on topics such as tax reform in Japan and partnership with Japan. As for specific business partnerships, we at TSUNAMI are going to make full use of our group network in efforts for the organization of as many projects as possible.

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