

Prof. Hamanaka

Remarks at High-level Roundtable Meeting on “ Meeting the needs for information and knowledge for climate change adaptation”

- **Importance of implementation for adaptation policy at Asia-Pacific region**
 - ✓ IGES is based in Japan, but we are international with focus on Asia and the Pacific.
 - ✓ Asia Pacific region is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, ranging from water, agriculture, health to human settlements and infra-structure particularly in coastal and low-lying areas. Despite this, the adaptation efforts are still lagging behind.
 - ✓ This only highlights the need for international and regional cooperation for building the capacity of vulnerable countries to adapt to climate change.

- **Establishment of Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network**
 - ✓ Keeping this in view, the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Network was launched in October 2009, as was introduced by Ms. Angela Cropper, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, and Vice-Minister Takemoto.

The aim of the network is to bring together various resource institutions to address some of the technical and capacity concerns of climate change adaptation in the region. The network has multiple objectives such as mobilizing knowledge and technology by improving their availability, accessibility and usability for user -communities at all levels and piloting adaptation options, demonstrating and disseminating the best practices

- **IGES Contribution to Global and Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Network**
 - ✓ Recognizing the importance of such a network, IGES is pleased to proactively support the Asia-Pacific Network.
 - ✓ IGES contribution to the Network includes co-hosting the Regional Hub at Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network with UNEP Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific, through providing human resources who provide competent administrative and technical inputs to the network.
 - ✓ In close collaboration with Ministry of the Environment of Japan, we would like to further enhance our contribution to the Network.

- ✓ Furthermore, IGES has a well structured and thorough research program on adaptation policies which are being taken up with various research institutions in Japan and elsewhere in the region. The findings of our research program would be of very relevance to the institutions and governments in the Asia Pacific region. Hence, we can be a strong service provider in terms of policy relevant knowledge to the network.
- ✓ This should strengthen collaboration between UNEP, various research and development institutions in the region including Stockholm Environment Institute, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and many other partners.