## IMPRESSION FROM THE SEMINAR ORGANIZER OKAYASU Kisaburo

Chairperson, Consumer Sub-Committee on University/College Cooperatives for Asia and the Pacific. June 27, 2001

**Dear Youth Cooperators and Adult Cooperators.** 

Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is a great pleasure to be given this opportunity to address you on the closing session of this seminar --- ICA Regional Cooperative Youth Seminar 2001. As an organizer, I would like to thank all of you for attending and congratulate you on the fact that we are completing all of the seminar events.

Now are you happy? I am very happy to find you cheerful with high-spirited eyes. In these three days, we have known each other, we have learnt together and discussed on the cooperative now and the future, and we have developed together.

As a Chairperson of ICA Sub-committee on University/College Cooperatives for Asia and the Pacific, I have organized two ICA Regional Campus/Youth Seminars in cooperation with other Sub-Committee members and host organizations which are Singapore cooperatives and Philippine cooperatives.

Now, this Tokyo seminar can be called as a milestone. This is the opening seminar of 21<sup>st</sup> century, and the first regional seminar for the youth of all types and forms of cooperatives.

This seminar will send messages which were adopted at the plenary session this morning to all cooperatives in this region and to out side of cooperative family by mean of web-site, report pamphlet as well as National conference which should be held by the respective countries represented in this activity. I would like to emphasize that the Value of this seminar will depend on our activities.

When we carry out the messages, I think that we should pay attention to several

issues. One is the relation between cooperatives and youth.

THERE IS ONE QUESTION; WHAT PURPOSE IS YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT FOR?

FIRST ANSWER: IT IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVES, INCLUDING INCREASING ITS BUSINESSES. IS IT OK? NO, IT IS NOT EVERYTHING. IF THAT IS ALL, YOUTH IS ONLY THE TOOL OF COOPERATIVE SUCCESS.

SECOND ANSWER: COOPERATIVES SHOULD HAVE FACILITIES FOR SOLVING YOUTH OWN PROBLEMS, INCLUDING TIGHT SITUATION ON GETTING A JOB. ACTUALLY THIS ANSWER IS (FINEST). the best or most excellent.

When youth feel attractive to cooperatives and its movement, it is the very success of cooperatives. This is why I emphasize that;

WITHOUT YOUTH PARTICIPATION, THERE CANNNOT BE SUCCESS OF COOPERATIVES.

That is "No youth Participation, No success!"

On the first day, Dr. Rodrigues, ICA President, said "Let the young lead the future, and let the adult pave the way to make it happen."

So finally, I would like to emphasize also that:

FUTURE OF COOPERATIVE IS IN THE HANDS OF THE YOUTH, and FUTURE IS OURS.

See you next time.

Arigato-gozaimasita, Kamsa-hamnida, Xie xie, Salamat, Terima kasih, Khoop-khun-khrap, Shukran, and Thank you very much!