Introduction to Part I

Population Decline and Immigration Policies: Japan’s Choice

The Part I of this issue features keynote speeches delivered in our Institute’s Eighth Welfare Policy Seminar held at the UN University Hall at Aoyama, Tokyo on December 16, 2003. The Seminar was organized by our Institute and was supported by the Yomiuri Newspapers. The title of the Seminar was “Population Decline and Immigration Policies: Japan’s Choice.” The discussion in the Seminar described the situation of both receiving and sending countries in terms of immigration and sought to obtain some policy implications by evaluating the trends and policies regarding international migration and social and economic integration of immigrants in Japan from comparative perspective. The program of the Seminar was as follows:

1:00-1:20 PM  
Opening Remarks and an Overview of the Issue  
Makoto Atoh (Director-General, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research)

1:20-1:50 PM  
Keynote Speech 1  
“Not Here for Good? International Labor Migration Realities and Prospects in Asia”  
Maruja M. B. Asis (Director of Research and Publications, Scalabrini Migration Center, Philippines)

1:50-2:20 PM  
Keynote Speech 2  
“Western Experiences with International Migration in the Context of Population Decline”  
Michael S. Teitelbaum (Program Director, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, U.S.A.)

2:20-2:35 PM  
Break

2:35-4:20 PM  
Panel Discussion Part I  
Yasushi Iguchi (Professor, Kwansei Gakuin University)  
Yasuko Hayase (Senior Researcher, Institute of Developing Economies, JETRO)  
Ryuichi Yamakawa (Professor, University of Tsukuba)  
Pooking Kee (Professor, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)

4:20-5:00 PM  
Panel Discussion Part II  
Asis, Teitelbaum, Iguchi, Hayase, Yamakawa, Kee