

Climate Fragility Risks in the Asia-Pacific Region

– identifying risks and ways to move forward

Date: 6 Nov. 2017 17:00-18:30

Venue: Japan Pavilion, BONN ZONE

A brief introduction of a report “Analysis and Proposal of Foreign Policies Regarding the Impact of Climate Change on Fragility in the Asia-Pacific Region-With focus on natural disasters in the Region”, published last September, is presented by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan. A discussion will follow concerning various risks the region faces, and seek for a way to move forward regarding regional cooperation to reduce such risks.

SPEAKERS / DISCUSSANTS

Mr. Tamaki Tsukada: Deputy Assistant Minister for International Cooperation and Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Dr. Yasuko Kameyama: Deputy Director, Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)

Ms. Yuri Noguchi: Climate Change Division, International Cooperation and Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

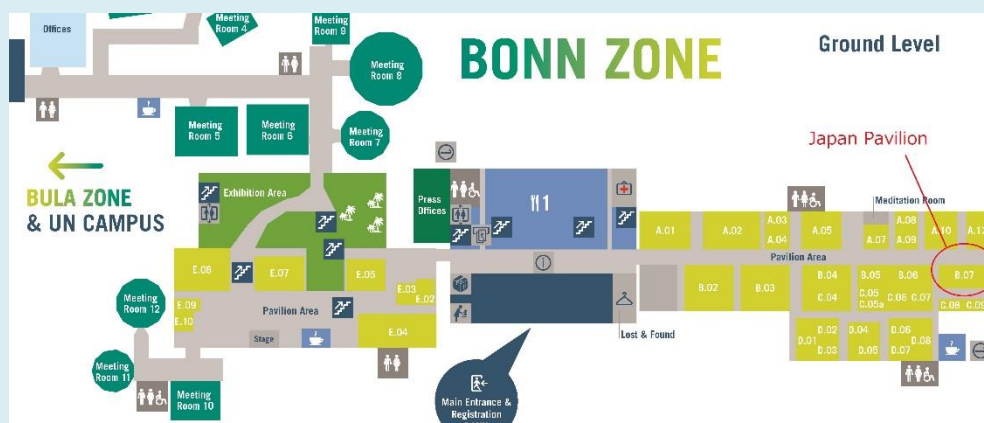
Mr. Ulu Bismarck Crawley: Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa

Mr. Hudson Kauhiona: Director Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, Solomon Islands

Prof. Joshua Busby: Associate Professor of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin

Full paper can be downloaded from:

http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001714.html



About the report

Analysis and Proposal of Foreign Policies Regarding the Impact of Climate Change on Fragility in the Asia-Pacific Region- With focus on natural disasters in the Region –

September, 2017, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Climate change is considered as one of the most serious challenges that pose threats to global security and economic prosperity. In 2013, under the UK presidency the Expert Meeting of the G7 countries was held, and since then the agenda has been discussed continuously at the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the Working Group.

The Working Group on G7 Climate Change and Fragility focused on the nexus between climate change and security, particularly drawing attention to specific regions in order to focus on regional fragility issues and presenting the significance of the possibility of implementing a case study or a pilot program. With consideration to such discussions, focus was placed on the Asia-Pacific Region which is inhabited by a great number the world's population, where the population will continue to increase and which is susceptible to natural disaster. The purpose of this initiative undertaken by Japan is to analyze the nexus between the effects of climate change on natural disasters and the socioeconomic fragility of the region and presenting the results thereof to the Working Group. In this report, within the Asia-Pacific Region, various challenges faced by areas most vulnerable to disasters attributed to climate change are specified, and a qualitative analysis is made on the instability of public security, politics and social climate observed in the region. The purpose of these two exercises are to gain insight into the situation through the overlapping of natural science and social science perspectives.

As a result of analyzing the effects of climate change in the Asia-Pacific Region, despite differences in the various assumptions and models, the main results were obtained. Regional socioeconomic investigations were made through interviewing regional experts in Japan.

Risks identified in social sciences and natural sciences elicit the need to assess them in accordance with their dependency. Moreover, while the importance of technical innovation in addressing climate change risks was reaffirmed, there was a critical awareness for the need to sufficiently consider social changes accompanying such innovation. Furthermore, in reducing the long-term effects of climate changes in the respective regions, it was discerned that, any government policies including adaptation measures should take into account aspects of not only climate change perspectives but also urbanization and socioeconomic issues, as well as the maintenance and recovery of the ecosystem.

Japan will employ and disseminate the outcome of this report not only on the climate change negotiations but also in various diplomatic endeavors to cooperate for development, prevent disasters and achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

