The 11ᵗʰ Science and Technology Ministers' Roundtable Meeting

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October 16, 2014
Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

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1. <u>Date and time</u>:   October 5, 2014 (Sun.), 16:15–18:30

2. <u>Venue</u>:   Room A, Kyoto International Conference Center

3. <u>Participants</u>:   Ministers responsible for Science and Technology
   Policy, science advisers to the head of states and other representatives from 24 countries (list attached)

4. <u>Theme</u>:   "Promoting Openness and Transparency in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy"

   Discussion Points

   Q1. What is the current status of activities for open innovation and promotion of openness of scientific research in each country?

   Q2. What kind of cooperation and collaboration should countries engage internationally to enhance openness and transparency in science, technology and innovation?

5. <u>Meeting Overview</u>:

   i)   Mr. Shunichi Yamaguchi, Japan's Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, chaired the meeting. In his opening remarks, Minister Yamaguchi mentioned:

   - For the restoration of the robust economy, the Japanese government has formulated the growth strategy and implemented it steadily as well as is striving to realize the "local rejuvenation" and "women's active participation in society".

   - The Japanese Government is accelerating the efforts for science and technology toward 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and also aims to showcase the innovation to the world.

   Next, Minister Yamaguchi expressed his expectation that the meeting will be an opportunity to share efforts of promoting openness and transparency in science, technology and innovation policy, and that there will be

meaningful exchange of information and views in line with the theme and discussion points described above.

ii)   Mr. Takao Kuramochi, Director General for Science, Technology and Innovation, Cabinet Office of Japan introduced the concept of open innovation, global trend of openness (including open data and open access), Japan's initiatives (SIP and ImPACT) taken upon basic policies (such as the 4th Science and Technology Basic Plan and Comprehensive Strategy on Science, Technology and Innovation) as well as future directions to be taken in view of their past experiences.

iii) The following three countries gave their presentations.

- Dr. Ewon Ebin, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation of Malaysia mentioned that they have recently formulated 'National Policy for Science, Technology and Innovation (NPSTI)' to be implemented from 2013 to 2020 aiming to be a scientifically advanced nation for the purpose of achieving socio-economic transformation and inclusive growth.   He also suggested a wider adoption, at the regional or global level, of the user-centric 'quadruple helix model' which is the concept to promote open innovation in Malaysia with the partnership comprising the government, business sector and the academia as well as the general public.

- Ms. Naledi Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology of Republic of South Africa explained that their government encourages open innovation and development, by interventions of the Centre for Public Service Innovation or the Science and Technology Innovation Centre along with convening annual innovation summits to exchange views and ideas on innovation with the citizens.   She also stressed the importance of active international cooperation and collaboration, especially the need of exchanging new scientific knowledge between the developed and developing countries.

- Prof. Jens Oddershede, Chairman of the Danish Council for Research and Innovation Policy of Denmark explained that, for a small country like Denmark, international collaboration including international joint authorship is critical to reinforce the human resources, the greatest assets of the country.   He stressed the importance of the quality assurance to promote openness and explained the consequent

standpoint of Denmark to stick to and promote the principal of green open access.   He also referred to the code of conduct of for scientific integrity which serves as a healthy and attractive science base to promote international collaboration. Besides he expressed his expectation for the establishment of an International Research Council, by expanding the existing mechanism such as European Research Council, which was established following the proposal of Denmark.

iv)   Participants exchanged their views. Specifically;

   (1)   There was no objection expressed to the idea of promoting openness in science and technology, concrete advantages of openness were indicated including improvement of the process of activities contribution to addressing societal and global challenges.

   (2)   There was a general common understanding on the need to clarify the definition of openness to promote international cooperation and collaboration given the lock of shared view on openness when openness is moving in the direction of opening up everything.

   (3)   Various approaches to promote openness were introduced from the participating countries and some countries expressed the importance of institutional frameworks and the quality assurance of the disclosed information to further promote openness.

   (4)   Several countries expressed that education is vital to promote openness and transparency, and a mechanism to facilitate the participation of the citizens like the 'quadruple helix model' as introduced by Malaysia, was advocated by many countries.

v)   In closing, Minister Yamaguchi expressed his cordial thanks to the participants and his hope that various cooperation and collaboration will be promoted between participating countries and then sustainable base will be reinforced for the purpose of addressing the global challenges that no single country alone can solve.