4th Symposium on Sustainable Development: Theories, Strategies and Global Governance Systems

ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of InterSymp 2003 – the 15th International Conference on Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics (to be held in Baden-Baden, Germany, from July 28th to August 2nd, 2003), I have the pleasure to announce the above Special Focus Symposium to be organized and chaired by myself (Kensei Hiwaki, Conference Co-Chairman, Professor of International Economics, Tokyo International University).

As in the past, we would like to adhere to the definition of Sustainable Development adopted by the World Commission on Environment and Development in Our Common Future (1987) in order to avoid unnecessary confusion of the definition:

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” (p. 43)

Sustainable development here does not mean a fixed state of harmony, but rather “a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investment, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are made consistent with future as well as present needs.” (p. 9)

We may understand the above set of definition broadly as a long-term process of balanced socioeconomic development compatible with conservation and enhancement of the global environment. Based on such definition, we will explore and discuss solution-oriented ideas, theories, strategies, policies and global governance systems.

Examples of approaches to Sustainable Development are, as follows:

- Cultural enrichment and diversity
- Healing the planet by way of rehabilitating and sustainable management of ecosystems
- Cultivation of aesthetic sentiments and human development
- Consciousness enhancement and educational innovations
- New enlightenment for the emancipation of modern people from short-term-oriented, materialistic, convenience-seeking attitude and behavior
- Directions of social objective and individual aspiration
- Enhancement of humanity and longevity
- Culture of peace and global solidarity
- Specialized supra-national organization and system
- Shift in corporate paradigm and technological innovation
- Appropriate use and viable direction of the IT revolution
- Needs for clean energy, safe water and healthy land
- Self-interest versus mutual interest
- Invisible hand versus market fundamentalism
- Absolute competition versus relative competition in international trade
- Fixed exchange-rate system versus fluctuating exchange-rate system
- Time-and-space constraint in the thought frame of modern people
- Resource constraints and global income distribution
- Employment system emphasizing cultural contents
- Longer lifetime and lower birth rate in the advanced nations
- Multinationals versus domestic firms
- Globalization versus globalism
- And so on.

Please send me a message as soon as possible by E-mail or Fax, if you are interested in presenting a paper at the Symposium.

Also, please send me an abstract of approximately 200 English words via E-mail attachment by February 15th, 2003. Alternatively, please send me two hard copies of your abstract to reach my university address no later than February 15th, 2003.

Prof. Kensei Hiwaki
Conference Co-Chairman, InterSymp 2003
Tokyo International University, Kawagoe, Saitama 350-1198, Japan
E-mail: hiwaki@tiu.ac.jp
Fax: +81 49 232 7477

Notification of acceptance will be sent you by March 1st, 2003.

Two camera-ready hard copies of your paper must be received by our Conference Chairman, Prof. George E. Lasker (University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, N9B 3P4), no later than May 1st, 2003.

Please feel free to pass on this information to any colleague, as appropriate.