



## **Symposium on Globalization and the Future of Youth in Asia**

Creating working opportunities and enabling environment for young people

### Summary of the First Day

Prof. Kazuo Takahashi, *International Christian University; Visiting Professor, UNU*

The challenge of globalization from the perspective of the corporations is that, on the one hand they need to carry out substantial restructuring, but on the other, they are fully aware of their responsibility to create employment. This is a dilemma as faced by the corporations. Growth without employment, growth with detrimental effects to wages – these phenomena may develop with globalization, if left in the hands of the market. This is the very challenge that we are faced with and is the overarching theme that we have seen today. I believe there are seven points which I thought would be extremely crucial.

1. In order to improve globalization with focus on Decent Work, there need to be efforts towards localization, or to make the local area the principal actor. Globalization and localization do not contradict, but do complement each other.
2. Economics until now have focused on the quantity whereas we need to shift our attention to the quality. As part of it, it is important to look at the quality of work as we formulate our model.
3. With the process of globalization so far, it was the people that moved towards work and with regard to the movement of people there were lots of restrictions which had posed us with dilemmas. What we need to endeavour is to devise our approach so that the work should approach the people.
4. In Decent Work there are some common principles to be found, but at the same time the contents could differ depending upon culture and social contexts. We need to utilize our sensibility when we see the differences as well as the similarities of Decent Work.
5. In looking at the localities, there could be comparative advantages in terms of employment creation. We need to make the best use of it, and at the same time, the national government should put in place systems to support these advantages.
6. Corporations need to secure more competent workers in order to enhance their competitiveness. In order to do so, education in the wider sense of the definition is becoming ever more important.
7. In globalization, special consideration should be imparted to the socially vulnerable than ever before. Such special consideration, whereas in the past may have been given on a national level, perhaps need to be considered at the international level, with the creation of an international safety net in scope.