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## Brief Summary

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On 2 and 3 December 2004, the ILO (International Labour Office), the UNU (the United Nations University) and the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) held the above-mentioned symposium in Tokyo with high-level participants from Asia, Mr. Juan Somavia, the Director-General of the ILO and Prof. van Ginkel, the Rector of the UNU. The symposium was attended by 14 government officials including Mr. KIM Dae Hwan, Minister of Labour of Korea, and a number of social partners from Asia. The 14 countries were Afghanistan, Brunei Darussalam, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, India, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Japan, Kingdom of Thailand, Malaysia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, People's Republic of China, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Republic of Singapore, and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

In the midst of rapid globalization, active discussion took place on ways of providing all men and women with opportunities to enjoy the fruits of globalization through the world of work. The discussion highlighted effective approaches to attaining Decent Work in Asia, through the exchange of information on innovative policies and measures adopted in participating countries.

The theme of the Symposium on the first day was "Fair Globalization." After the speech by the Rector of the UNU on "Fair globalization-benefiting all," the ILO Director-General presented his keynote speech "Globalization and the future of youth in Asia," which was then followed by a panel discussion participated by representatives of social partners and academics.

The next day, the symposium reconvened under the theme "Globalization and Youth Employment," and Ms. Jane Stewart, Officer-in-Charge of the Employment Sector/Director of the Skills and Employability Department, ILO made a keynote speech entitled "The importance of youth employment in a globalizing world: the ILO viewpoint." At the following session after the policies and measures for youth employment and HRD in Japan were introduced, participants including those from Asian countries exchanged information about the efforts made in respective Asian countries in this field. That was followed by a session that featured young workers and their voices. A panel discussion took place after this session.

The symposium was very fruitful and participants were highly appreciative of the sincere efforts made by governments, the ILO, the UN, and social partners. They also agreed that all parties concerned should strive towards a fair globalization and the creation of a society where young people can actively work and fulfil their aspirations.

At the closing session, Prof. Kazuo TAKAHASHI of the International Christian University and Visiting Professor at the UNU summarized the Symposium. Subsequently the Chair's conclusion was presented by Mr. Seiichi Eto, the General Chair, Senior Vice Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan.