

【Asia】 December 5,2017

Opening Remarks at Manila Symposium

Mr. Hisao Nomoto, Secretary General of Japan AALA , delivered a following remarks at the start of the Symposium in Manila for a creation of Community of Peace and Cooperation in East Asia on Tuesday December 5th 2017.

Good afternoon everyone

I am Nomoto Hisao, secretary general of Japan Asia, Africa, Latin America Solidarity Committee.(Japan AALA) As a head of the tour group, I would like to say a few opening words.

First of all, I want to thank Princes Nemenzo san and Corazon Fabros san for joining us today despite your busy schedule. I hear that both of you have been engaged in very important activities in these days in the Philippines and abroad as well. Although this is my first meeting you, both of you are well known in Japan for your great contribution to peace and friendship between tow countries. So I feel great honored to have you here.

In this tour we have two basic aims. The first is to submit a petition for creation of a Community of Peace in East Asia to the East Asia Summit through ASEAN secretariat and the government of Philippines which assumes the chairmanship of this year. Japan AALA has been carrying out the signature campaign for this petition since 2014, which is one of the most important our activities

The second is interaction with the peace movement groups in your country to learn the lessons of your movements and exchange views to further strengthen our relations and friendship between Philippines and Japan.

Well, we arrived in the Philippines the day before yesterday and visited the site of the removed Klark US air base, Subic US Naval base and Bataan nuclear power plant which hasn't worked for more than 30 years. In Subic we met the people who have been struggling to solve various problems after the withdrawal of US base. We were impressed by their talks on the burdens imposed by US bases. On our part we explained our struggle against construction of new US base in Okinawa, restarting nuclear power plant, and our fighting for preserving article 9 of the Japanese constitution as it is and so on.

I hope this meeting will be a great success to deepen mutual understanding and

strengthen solidarity. Thank you very much and let's get started.

First, we would like to hear speeches from 2 guests from Philippines.
Ms Princes Nemenzo san, Please.