

Ladies and gentleman,

Welcome to Japan, I am President of Japan Water Agency or JWA. It is a great honor to deliver the opening remarks on the last session on water allocation and water rights.

(I, also, express my profound thanks to all participants, particularly vice president of NARBO, Mr. Silva.)

This workshop was held 4 times. The first one was held in Viet Nam, the second one was in Philippine and the third one was in Thailand. Each workshop brought some good results.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my profound thanks to all participants in workshop as well as recipient organizations to hold this workshop.

I learned that you are going to present an action plan county by county during workshop with regard to the problems that each country is facing.

I believe the contents of action plan is meaningful because you have prepared through active discussion throughout a year.

I hope that you will bring back the action plan to your country and achieve some results in water allocation and water rights based on the action plan.

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Also, I was informed that you are going to visit and discuss with officials from Land Improvement Districts.

Some of the staff has many experiences dealing with water allocation to supply irrigation water for a long time, from the Second World War to the high economic growth period in Japan.

I believe it will give you an important opportunity to learn and share how they cope with the water allocation issues

We, JWA have 40 years of history in water resource development and management and have a lot of experiences as well as advanced technologies.

We have long hoped to contribute to promoting the Integrated Water Resource Management in Asian countries with our experiences and technologies.

Therefore, NARBO was established in collaboration with ADB and ADBI. We will promote and expand this activity, to do so, your active participation is essential.

So, I would like to suggest that we work together to promote and expand NARBO activities.

Although this topic on water allocation and water rights is finished this time, I hope we can continue our friendships.

Therefore, If you need any assistance, of course, this time of topic, and other topic as well, you are always welcome to contact us.

Finally, I hope that you will enjoy the time in Japan, even the five days is

not long enough.

I would like you thank for your kind attention.