High-Level Speech 1



Dr. Emil Salim, President's Council of Advisors, (Former Minister of the Environment), Indonesia

Dr. Emil Salim, whose background is Engineering and Economics, received Ph D degree at University of California, Berkley. After became Minister of State for Administrative Reform in 1971 at the age of 41, Dr Emil Salim served four terms the ministerial positions in Indonesia for 22 years, including the first minister of the Environment. Dr. Emil Salim addressed from early on the environmental problems in the developing nations region in Asia, and as the chairman of the ASEAN Environment Ministerial Congress set the target, the scope, the program and the action plan for the ASEAN nations to cooperate in the environment area. He also contributed in establishing the concept of sustainable development and furthering global environmental policies through various United Nations' committees. He currently served as President's Council of Advisers, Indonesia.

Roadmap to Low-Carbon World -Asian Consciousness -

Developing countries can learn from the mistakes made when development neglects the environment. The time has come to ask the questions what has development in the globe achieved thus far, what has gone wrong with the development model that we have pursued and in what direction do we have to go?

The needs of the world today is in changing the course of development from an increased materially based style of life into an increased enrichment of immaterial, cultural, spiritual, knowledge and science based style of life.

There are increased efforts today to critically review the economically based Gross Domestic Product and to strive for Green GDP to make the necessary corrections through internalizing externalities, by incorporating resource depletion and by including social and environmental benefits.

The life style of tomorrow does not imply reducing consumption, but consuming differently. What is needed is changing the quantity of consumption from resource exhaustion with finite energy inefficiency to raising the quality of consumption with resource enrichment and sustained by perpetual energy efficiency.

To reach for this different life style, plain living is the most ideal, supported by the creativity of high thinking on the basis of science, technology, culture and spiritual ideas.