



Establishment of the Asian Financial Partnership Center (April 30, 2014)

The Financial Services Agency (FSA) established the Asian Financial Partnership Center (AFPAC) on April 30, 2014, with a view to addressing the issues related to the financial markets in Asia, to review our financial sector technical assistance for infrastructure development, and to further strengthen cooperative relationships with Asian financial authorities.

The AFPAC will invite government officials from Asian financial authorities as Visiting Fellows, conduct research on such subjects as challenges for the Asian financial market, and hold seminars and conferences.

Through this initiative, the FSA, based in Tokyo, aims to strengthen partnerships and cooperation among Asian countries and to contribute to the development of financial infrastructures and the strengthening of the financial system in Asia by means of capacity building for developing expertise.



Opening Ceremony at AFPAC (July 29, 2014)

On July 29, 2014, to welcome the first three Visiting Fellows, two from Financial Regulatory Commission of Mongolia (FRC) and one from State Bank of Vietnam (SBV), the AFPAC held an Opening Ceremony.

In the ceremony, Mr. Masamichi Kono, President of the AFPAC and Vice Minister for International Affairs, delivered the opening remarks, briefly explaining the background to the establishment and our aims to achieve through our activities. Please go to our website for the full text of the Opening Remarks. <http://www.fsa.go.jp/en/news/2014/20140729-1.html>

Other FSA staff members also attended the ceremony to welcome the Visiting Fellows, and it was conducted in a very friendly atmosphere.

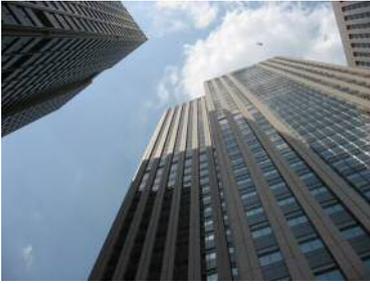


Financial Services Agency

The FSA is responsible for: ensuring the stability of Japan's financial system; protection of depositors, insurance policy holders and securities investors; and smooth financing through such measures as planning and policymaking concerning the financial system, inspection and supervision of private sector financial institutions, and surveillance of securities transactions. The FSA thereby plays important roles for the sound development of the national economy.



Opening Ceremony
First Visiting Fellows and other FSA staff



Program for First Visiting Fellows

The first three Visiting Fellows' training program will last approximately four months.

During the first month, they attended various lectures led by FSA staff to learn the basics of the Japanese financial system, financial regulation and supervisory practices at FSA. They also visited the outside organizations and institutions, including the Bank of Japan, the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Self Regulatory Organizations, private financial institutions, and research institutes, to attend lectures and exchange views with them on various topics.

After that, they have been taking training programs in the area of their interests at FSA and other relevant organizations, and deepening their understanding of specific topics.

At the end of the program, they will deliver the final presentations on outcomes from their research and training at seminars and symposiums. Through the program, the Visiting Fellows are expected to acquire knowledge, enhance understanding, and develop expertise in areas of their interests, eventually contributing to the development of the financial systems in their home countries.



In front of the Bank of Japan

At the Tokyo Stock Exchange



Interns

With Mr. Masamichi Kono, President of the AFPAC and Vice Minister for International Affairs

Student Internships

On September 16, 2014, three officials from Bank of Thailand and Ministry of Finance of Vietnam, who are studying abroad at graduate schools in Japan, joined the AFPAC as interns for two weeks.

They attended lectures at FSA, visited financial institutions and research institutes to attend their lectures and exchange views on issues concerning the Japanese financial system and regulatory practices. On the last day, they made presentations to the FSA staff on the overview of their financial sector and institutional framework.



Visiting Fellows and Interns

After a lecture on "Lessons from the Banking Crisis in Japan" by Mr. Ryozo Himino, Deputy Director-General of the Supervisory Bureau

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Second Group of Visiting Fellows

Since October 21, 2014, six new officials from Bank of Mongolia, Bank of Thailand, Myanmar Ministry of Finance and Revenue,* Securities Exchange Commission of Thailand, and State Securities Exchange Commission of Vietnam have joined the AFPAC.

*Myanma Economic Bank