

On this occasion of my assumption of office as the Chairman of ASJA International (ASJA), I would like to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all the friends and supporters of ASJA in both Japan and ASEAN member countries. It is indeed a great honor and privilege for me being entrusted by the ASJA Board of Directors with the new task and responsibilities. I intend however to pursue all the work, following the basic principle of collective leadership and concerted efforts of all concerned.

ASJA has just celebrated its 15th anniversary in early this year (2015). Its roles in providing a large number of promising young students and scholars from Asia, particularly ASEAN countries, with a unique program of educational and cultural-related activities making their studies and living in Japan a truly high success, have been noted widely by the public. For this reason, despite the practical difficulties in the last few years, the importance of ASJA and outcomes of ASJA program have been reassessed and recognized by the Japanese Government. Also, due to this, ASJA is able to continue its operations without interruption, with continued supports and valuable guidance particularly from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and several other prominent institutions in Japan.

This year, in addition to the various activities already planned for assisting the ASJA-MEXT scholars as in previous years, new projects will be initiated with the objectives to strengthen the relationships and facilitate exchanges of human resources and others between ASJA and the 10 member-chapters of the ASEAN Council of Japan Alumni (ASCOJA). To be successful, I wish to take this opportunity to urge for full cooperation and useful advices from everyone.



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