



Kodai Okano

Kodai Okano is a student of Graduate school of Law and Politics, Osaka University, and studies Biomedical and Law, in specific, ethics of Regenerative Medicines. He is trying to find out a better way to regulate those medical technologies. In addition, He is interested in international affairs and reads some reports of international organizations and international conferences. He considers that it is essential to integrate humans and technologies for the sustainable development of the world. Recently, he is thinking to go abroad to extend his studies. However, his immediate goal is to catch big black basses.

Essay

In this essay, I would like to show my perspectives on the global economy and the role of the IMF.

We, young people, will be forced to face many problems after the prosperity of the previous generation. According to the outlook of OECD¹, the population of the world will be more than 9 billion and the scale of the world economy will be almost four times bigger by 2050. With the expansion of the world economy, consumption of energy is estimated to increase by 80%. In that world, supply of foods, energies, and water will cause shortage and also global environment must restrict consumption of those resources. Weaker people in poverty who have suffered from hunger and diseases for long time and they will face more serious problems in the future without any doubt.

The outcome document of Rio+20 “The future we want²” recognizes the importance to eradicate poverty and to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production.

¹ [OECD Environmental Outlook to 2050: The Consequences of Inaction]
http://www.oecd.org/document/11/0,3746,en_2649_37465_49036555_1_1_1_37465,00.html

² [The future we want] Outcome document adopted at Rio+20
<http://www.uncsd2012.org/content/documents/727The%20Future%20Want%2019%20June%201230pm.pdf>

Obviously, it is already the time for us to change our way of thinking and behavior. Although the document reaffirms “common but different responsibility” of each country for sustainable development, I feel that we all have “common and inevitable responsibility” to the future of the world. To solve all those problems, young people have to contribute in cooperation with each other irrespective of nationality. We have to respect the difference, but all the people from all countries have to do all that we can.

Recently global economy seems to face serious and essential problems. The earth is almost worn out of greed expansion of economy. Attempts to maximize individual wealth have caused difference, poverty, and many other problems. However we can see signs to change, such as wave of democratization in the Arab world, so called occupied Wall Street in the U.S., anti-nuclear power generation campaign in Japan, and so on. Those may implicate that with correct information and cooperation of people, we could see “the future truly we want”.

To foster global growth and economic stability in such uncertain and unforeseeable world, the IMF must be expected to provide not only financial aid, and exchange rate stability, but also other resources such as information, knowledge, technology, and people, to support countries in difficulties. When we face serious difficulty, endeavors and innovations will break through in many cases. The most important role of the IMF is, I think, to encourage their efforts and innovations supporting to form structures, facilities, and to educate people for their own development.

We cannot see “the future truly we want” on the same way which people in our previous generation have come and done. We have to find new way with friends from all countries. We young people normally have not much wealth to worry about but we have freedom and privilege to study, to discuss, and to change.