

Summary report of social issues round table

We, the round table of social issues discussed and compared educational problems in Russia and Japan, we then explored further into the future of employment in both countries.

We the Japanese delegation would like to express our deepest appreciation to the Russian delegation for the well-prepared reports and fruitful discussion.

Reports of Russian delegation could be summarized as follows.

- 1, the unbalance of demand and supply of labor market;
- 2, social discrimination surrounding labor environment
- 3, the lack of career education support

The Russian economy is still in the progress of changing, from controlled economy to free market. Through our discussion, we realized the three issues that were raised can be improved by adjusting to the new economic system. We believe that educational institutions such as universities can highly contribute for such adjustments, especially at providing information infrastructure; for example holding job-hunting seminars and offering students career guidance.

We also found some similarity between Russian and Japanese labor environment, such as discrimination in employment. In both countries, age discrimination and gender discrimination still remains in many fields. In terms of law, the circumstances have been gradually changed, but in the level of social adaptation, these laws are not fully comprehended by the public. There is a pressing demand to enforce these laws.

Employment, by itself, is the fundamentals of economy. Employment, seen from a student's perspective, is indeed a dead or alive subject. Without injuring the function of the free market, we should keep an eye out for labor market efficiency and secure the basic infrastructure so that fairness can be assured for all.