

[Press Release]

Asian women experts will come together

International Forum on Gender and Development

in commemoration of

「ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit」

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Released by : Korean Women's Development Institute (KWDI)

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Korean Women's Development Institute(KWDI) and The Asian Association of Women's Studies(AAWS) jointly hold the **「2009 Korea-ASEAN International Forum on Gender and Development」** at the international conference hall of KWDI in Seoul on May 28th, 2009 to commemorate the **「ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit」** to be held in June 1-2, 2009.

" 2009 Korea-ASEAN International Forum on Gender and Development "

○ **Theme**

“Thinking Alternatives, Sustainable Future for Women
in Korea-ASEAN”

○ **Date**

Thursday, May 28th 2009, 13:00 ~ 18:00

○ **Venue**

International Conference Hall, 2nd fl., KWDI

○ **Organized by**

Asian Association of Women's Studies (AAWS)

Korean Women's Development Institute (KWDI)

○ **Supported by**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade,

Ministry of Gender Equality,

Korean Association of Women's Studies,

Asian Center for Women's Studies, Ewha Womans University

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- It is supported by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Gender Equality, Korean Association of Women's Studies, Asian Center for Women's Studies, Ewha Womans University.
- Under the theme of “Thinking Alternatives, Sustainable Future for Women in Korea-ASEAN,” this upcoming Forum will provide an opportunity to rethink the gender and development issues in Asia from the feminist perspectives and share the experiences of Asian feminist scholars for creative new knowledge production on

women.

- It will be also an important stepping stone for the scholars, activists and policy makers on gender equality to strengthen the interactive network especially in relationship with Korea-ASEAN.
- The keynote speech will be addressed by Prof. Carolyn I. SOBRITCHEA (University of the Philippines) with topic on “Inter-Asia Feminist Knowledge Exchange Experiences.”
- For the Panel Session, there will be presentations on the topic of the Gender and Development issues from Indonesia, Malaysia and Korea: Prof. Kristi POERWANDARI (Universitas Indonesia), Prof. Rashidah SHUIB & Intan OSMAN (Universiti Sains Malaysia), Dr. KIM Kyung Hee (KWDI) and Dr. KIM Yi Seon (KWDI).

*** The Asian Association of Women's Studies(AAWS)**

The Asian Association of Women's Studies(AAWS) is a forum for discussion and co-operation on new ideas in feminist education and research with a focus on Asia and to promote the dissemination of information on relevant community programs. AAWS is seeks to establish an institutional basis for feminist education and research on Asia, linking associations of women's studies, research institutions, resource centers, as well as individual scholars and practitioners in the region, with the intent of addressing issues of common interest in Asia. Since AAWS launched in November 2007, it has been growing with over 200 members(individual/institutional) more than 13 countries from Asia. Prof. CHANG Pilwha(Women's Studies, Ewha Womans University), who was the Convenor for Women's Worlds 2005, was elected as the first president of AAWS and Korea takes a role of the secretariat of AAWS located at Ewha Womans University.



Attachments.

1. Short bio for key presenters
2. Abstracts of the presentation
3. Program

1. Short bio for key presenters

◇ CAROLYN ISRAEL SOBRITCHEA

Dr. Sobortchea is a Professor of Philippine Studies at the Asian Center, University of the Philippines, Diliman. She the Director of the University of the Philippines, Center for Women's Studies from 2000-2007 and its Deputy Director for Training and Extension Service from 1991-1999. She has worked as project leader of numerous national and Asian regional studies. She has also helped organize training programs and conferences on various topics about women and gender relations like domestic violence, reproductive health, migration and mobility and the gender dimensions of poverty. Her experiences in extension work includes giving technical assistance to international development organizations, the Philippines and other Asian governments, to schools and NGOs in project development and evaluation and for the review of policies and laws on women and children.

As the past President of the Women's Studies Association of Asia, Dr. Sobritchea helped establish the women's/gender studies programs of the various universities in the country and some Asian countries. She also headed a project of the UP Center for Women's Studies on the establishment of women's/gender resource centers in seven regions of the country.

Dr. Sobritchea has authored and edited several books, journal articles, policy papers and advocacy materials on women's issues. She was an official delegate to the 1995 Beijing Conference on Women, the Beijing+5 meetings in Bangkok and New York in 2000 and the decade review of the Beijing Political Declaration and Platform of Action in 2005, also in New York. She participated

in the meetings of the UN Committee on the Status of Women in 2006 and 2008.

◇ KRISTI POERWANDARI

Kristi Poerwandari is a lecturer and researcher in the Division of Clinical Psychology, Faculty of Psychology, Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia. Currently she also acts as the head of the Graduate Program in Women's Studies at the same university. She is one of the founders and board member of PULIH Foundation, Center for Psychosocial Intervention of Trauma, with management office based in Jakarta. She is also one of the founders and currently the Coordinator of UTAMA - a newly established small group of psychologists beginning to work for empowerment of poor community.

She earns her PhD in Philosophy (2002), with her dissertation on the philosophy of humankind of violence and its intervention. She is the editor of "Indonesian Women in a Changing Society", published by Ewha Womens University Press, Korea, 2005; and write books (in Indonesian language) on community-based psychosocial recovery/empowerment; qualitative research; as well as women and gender issues. Her dissertation has been published as a book (2004) entitled "Mengungkap selubung kekerasan: telaah filsafat manusia" (To disclose the cover of violence: A study with the philosophy of humankind perspectives). Her main interests range from prevention and intervention of gender-based violence, prevention and intervention of human violence in general, care for caregivers, capacity building for humanitarian workers, and empowerment of poor community. She is also very concerned about ensuring gender justice and mainstreaming psychology in the legal paradigm and processes. Kristi enjoys conceptual and theoretical building of the academic lives, as well as conducting

trainings, capacity buildings and developing popular psycho-education and empowerment for the community through media.

She joins professional association of Himpunan Psikologi Indonesia (HIMPPI) or the Association of Indonesian Psychology, as well as the Association of Asian Women's Studies, initiated by Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea.

◇ **INTAN OSMAN**

Intan Osman is an Associate Professor of Organization (HRM) at the School of Management, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) since 1978 and lectures at the undergraduate, masters (MBA) and doctorate (DBA) levels. Between 1982 and early 1994, she worked as a training manager in executive development programmes for two multinational manufacturing companies and a local training and educational consultancy firm. Intan has also tutored at the Faculty of Business and Management as well served as an adult education programme course leader at University of Stirling Scotland (1988 -1989), a short-term visiting lecturer/scholar at Taskent Technical College, Uzbekistan (1997) Nihon Fukushi University and Nanzan University, Japan (2003); Northern Sumatra University (2003-2007); and Faculty of Management, University of Lethbridge, AB, Canada (2001-2008).

Intan is currently heading three research projects with members from different disciplines and universities in Women & Health, Women & Ecotourism and Human Resource Effectiveness, an international and collaborative six country project. She is also a co-researcher in Gender Mainstreaming, Women & Micro-Credit, CSR & SMEs and Violence against Women. Her previous research of interdisciplinary and multi-centered included Women & Lifestyle, Wellness, Leadership and Entrepreneurial Values both international and

collaborative projects, and Women Entrepreneurs. She also heads a seminar, publication and research committee at Women's Development Research Centre (KANITA), USM besides serving as a board member. Her previous administrative posts were the chair of Organization, and Executive Development Programme Coordinator at the school level; and Vice President of Women Association at university level. Intan teaches in Organisational Behaviour (OB), Human Resource Management/Development (HRM/HRD), Entrepreneurship, International Aspects of Women and Gender Issues and International Management both offered as summer courses at University of Lethbridge, AB. She supervises Master's and Doctoral candidates and to date, she has graduated 4 PhDs, 2 DBAs, 1 MA and 11 MBAs. Intan has also consulted in HR issues as well developed and trained practitioners in the corporate and government sectors in HR/Organization modules.

To date, she has co-written 2 books and edited a book and a manual in Organizational Behaviour, Human Resource Management and Human Capital and published a few papers in international and regional journals. In 2000, Intan and a senior colleague have been named a prize winner in the International Management Game Competition 1995-1997 for the Malaysian Business Game sponsored and organized by Japan Foundation for the Fusion of Science & Technology (FOST) and University of New Hampshire.

2. Abstracts of the presentation

◇ Inter-Asia Feminist Knowledge Exchange Experiences

Over the last three decades the production of knowledge about, for and mainly by women in Asia has grown both in number and scope. Through creative and passionate negotiations along common and diverse interests, locations, contexts and perspectives, feminist scholars and social activists, have challenged various persistent and emerging gender issues in the region. They have examined how cultural beliefs and practices, social organizations and recent economic as well as political structures and processes are implicated in the reproduction biases against women. They have likewise actively participated in finding women-centered ways of interrogating and solving these festering issues through collaborative research and publication and by sharing of experiences in teaching, advocacy work, organizing and program development. My paper highlights some of the major developments in the ways we, as part of these group of scholars, activists and development workers, have individually and collectively carried out these initiatives. I also identify the opportunities and obstacles that lie ahead for us; the challenges that will influence the future directions and scope of feminist scholarships and activism in Asia.

◇ Women and Gender Issues in Disaster and Crisis Management in Indonesia

Indonesia is in a hazard prone region for earthquake and tsunami, near the subduction zone between Indo-Australia Plate and Eurasia Plate. It is exacerbated by the exploitation of the environment, leading to the frequent occurrences of forest fires, droughts and floods. Yet it is not realized fully until the massive

destruction of tsunami in the Aceh and other parts of Sumatra region at the end of 2004. In general there were lacks of gender disaggregated data before and after disaster with inadequate identification and response of the needs of different genders and classes. While women and children have specific needs to meet, there are also greater risks of women and children to experience negative social implications of disaster, such as the risk of losing inherited land, trafficking, sexual violence and domestic violence.

The Law 24 of 2007 on Disaster Management carries out new perspective, viewing disaster management not only emergency but including also pre-disaster and post-disaster responses. Disaster is defined widely, including 'human-inflicted disaster' including violent conflicts. Yet there are limitations of the Law. When government bodies in many places are often seen as bureaucratic, the Law rules for the establishment of the National Body for Disaster Management as the formal authority in responding to disaster. Since crisis situation cannot wait for intervention, in reality, often the community themselves with the support of the non-governmental organizations do the emergency responses. The delay of the government in responding to crisis situation is also due to some inconsistencies of what have been regulated by government regulations, leading to problems and conflicts in coordination in the field. The Law also does not sufficient enough in addressing the specific gender issues in disaster management. It is stated the basic principles of justice, equality and 'non discrimination' to those with different religion, ethnicity, race, social-economic status and gender. Yet the view rests on the equality in the sense of 'equal treatment' only. It does not yet recognize the specific situation and needs of women (ex. reproduction and sexuality) which in many cases lead to the needs of different and specific interventions, which cannot be seen as discriminatory to men. The recommendation is to create effective mechanism to ensure gender mainstreaming in government planning and

response to disasters.

The good side is that observations highlight the fact that disaster recovery and rehabilitation provide good opportunities for women to play public roles with the support of their families and communities. It also underlines the importance of working with both men and women to promote a gender-balanced approach to disaster risk reduction.

◇ A Relook at Gender and Development in Malaysia

This paper is an attempt to have a relook at gender and development in Malaysia, a country, once known as one of the "Three Little Tigers" and exhorted as "the tiger with a vision" in the 1990s. Having successfully shifted its agriculture based economy to an industrialized, market-led economy, Malaysia has shown its commitment to ensuring women's place in development not only by ratifying several international documents such as CEDAW but also by locating women in its five-yearly development planning. In support of the National Policy on Women formulated in 1985, the 6th Malaysia Plan (1991-1995) gave a special focus on women as a primary objective in development. This attention continued in the subsequent Malaysia plans. The 9thMP has a special chapter on women and development which further affirmed the Malaysian belief in gender equality. However this paper attempts to interrogate Malaysia's development plan against the backdrop of the gender ideology and questions whether Malaysia's development plan is shaped by a paradigm shift or whether "gender" is being used essentially without challenging the men-women power base. The paper concludes that much is still desired from Malaysia's development plan if the country is to realize its belief in gender

equality. There is a need to move from gender seen as a binary dimension to a more complex inter-sectionality of gender.

3. Program

13:00 - 13:20 Registration

13:20 - 13:35 Opening Ceremony

Moderator - KONG Mee-Hae (Silla University, Korea)

Opening Remarks

KIM Taehyun (President, Korean Women's Development Institute)

Welcome Remarks

CHANG Pilwha (President, Asia Association of Women's Studies)

Congratulatory Remarks

OH Joon (Deputy Minister, Multilateral and Global Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade)

13:35 - 14:00 Keynote Session

"Inter-Asia Feminist Knowledge Exchange Experiences"

Carolyn I. SOBRITCHEA (University of Philippines, Philippines)

14:00 - 14:15 Break

14:10 - 16:00 Panel Session

Moderator - YOON Hyungsook (Mokpo National University, Korea)

< Presentation >

"The Future Task for Gender Impact Assessment in Korea"

KIM Kyung Hee (KWDI, Korea)

**"Women and Gender Issues in Disaster and Crisis Management in
Indonesia"**

Kristi POERWANDARI (Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia)

“A Relook at Gender and Development in Malaysia”

Rashidah SHUIB & Intan OSMAN (University of Sains Malaysia, Malaysia)

“Women across Borders and Citizenship within Borders”

KIM Yi Seon (KWDI, Korea)

< Discussion >

HUH Ra-Keum (Ewha Womans University, Korea)

CHO Joo-hyun (Keimyung University, Korea)

16:00-16:15 Coffee Break**16:15-17:30 Round-up Discussion**

Moderator - KIM Eun-Shil (Ewha Womans University, Korea)

Panel

CHANG Pilwha (Ewha Womans University, Korea)

Carolyn I. SOBRITCHEA (University of Philippines, Philippines)

Intan OSMAN (University of Sains Malaysia, Malaysia)

Kristi POERWANDARI (Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia)

LIM Eun Mie (Ewha Womans University, Korea)

17:30-18:00 Floor Discussion**18:00 Closing**

*** Korean Women's Development Institute**

Korean Women's Development Institute was established in 1983 to comprehensively undertake women's affairs. The Institute transformed itself as a gender policy research institute in 1998 with its Korean name changed accordingly in 2007. As the Korean government's gender policy think-tank, KWDI contributes to building a gender-equal society.

Press Release END.