Lecture Note for Day 2 (October 10, 2013)

Course Case Study (Paradigm Change for Asia's Emerging Economies)

Course No. 5123430 Winter 2013 Instructor Toshiro Nishizawa

Subject How promising is the Asian Century?

- 1. As described in the syllabus, students are required to make presentations several times either on a topic of his/her interest or on one of her/his choice from the subjects given by the instructor. Because the students seem to be highly motivated and the class size this time is ideal to meet each student's interest and need, I would suggest that each student identify at an earlier stage an issue or issues for his/her own research in this course throughout the semester. The research (presentation and report as well) could be carried out either individually or as a team of students sharing their interest.
- 2. Original plan for Day 2 was to examine prospects for the "Asian Century" scenario based on your reading of *Asia 2050: Realizing the Asian Century* by Kohli, Sharma and Sood to identify challenges and to prioritize issues to be addressed from your own country perspective. While this exercise itself remains useful, I would propose that we use this exercise to help us do brainstorming to identify an issue or issues for your own research in this course.
- 3. *Asia 2050* lists the following six phenomena as risks and challenges for "Asian Century" scenario:
- 3.1. Increasing inequality within countries, which could undermine social cohesion and stability
- 3.2. The risk of getting caught in the "Middle Income Trap"
- 3.3. Intense competition for finite natural resources, as newly affluent Asians aspire to higher standards of living
- 3.4. Rising income disparities across countries
- 3.5. Global warming and climate change
- 3.6. Poor governance and weak institutional capacity
- 4. Asia 2050 presents the following seven intergenerational issues as requiring national action throughout the region:
- 4.1. Growth and inclusion
- 4.2. Entrepreneurship, innovation, and technological development
- 4.3. Massive urbanization
- 4.4. Financial transformation
- 4.5. Radical reduction in the intensity of energy and natural resources use
- 4.6. Climate change
- 4.7. Governance and institutions

- 5. Other perspectives or issues presented in Asia 2050 include the following:
- 5.1. Regional Cooperation
- 5.2. Global agenda
- 5.3. Need for enhanced resilience
- Question: Do you find any missing issues worth considering in search for a new paradigm for Asia's emerging economies?
- Question: Could you place an issue or issues of your interest in the context of arguments given in Asia 2050?
- Question: Do you think "Asian Century" scenario described in Asia 2050 ideal or something we should try to achieve?
