The 156th International Senior Seminar

"Protection for Victims of Crime and Use of Restorative Justice Programmes"

1. Duration and Participants

- From 15 January to 14 February 2014
- Eight overseas participants from six countries (including a Course Counsellor)
- Seven domestic participants

2. Programme Overview

Improvement of protection and support of victims of crime and restorative justice programmes are international trends. However, some parts of Asian, African and Central and Southern American countries do not have adequate systems for the protection of victims of crime and do not sufficiently encourage active participation by the victim in the criminal justice process. These countries may find it beneficial to strengthen their systems for victim protection and support and to develop restorative justice policies, procedures and programmes at the same time.

The objective of this Seminar was to clarify and analyse the current situation and to explore more effective ways to protect victims of crime and encourage more active participation by the victim in the criminal justice process, specifically considering restorative justice approaches. In order to achieve this purpose, the Seminar provided an opportunity to examine the current situations and problems existing in the participants' respective countries.

Major topics for discussion included:

- Current situation and problems victims of crime are facing at all stages of the criminal justice system; and
- Current situation and problems of restorative justice approaches at all stages of the criminal justice system.

3. Lectures

The following visiting experts from overseas and ad hoc lecturers from Japan, as well as professors of UNAFEI, gave lectures:

- Visiting Experts
 - Dr. Brian Steels

Director

Asia Pacific Forum for Restorative Justice

Senior Research Fellow

Centre for Aboriginal Studies, Curtin University

Ms. Betty Pang Mo-yin

Deputy

Crime Support Group Crime Wing, Hong Kong Police

Dr. Gerd F. Kirchhoff

Professor

Tokiwa International Victimology Institute

O Ad hoc Lecturers

Dr. Kei Someda

Director

Otsu Probation Office, Ministry of Justice

Ms. Satoko Ikeda

Counselor for Policies on Crime Victims

Office for Policies on Crime Victims, Cabinet Office

Ms. Tomoko Saito

Assistant Director

Office for Crime Victims, National Police Agency

Dr. Nozomu Asukai

Deputy Director

Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Medical Service

Dr. Motoo Noguchi

Chair of the Board of Directors

Trust Fund for Victims

Director

International Cooperation Department, Research and Training Institute, Ministry of Justice

O Special speech

Mr. Hiroshi Ozu

Prosecutor General