

**UNAFEI**

**161st INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE  
CLOSING CEREMONY SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2015  
FAREWELL SPEECH BY PAMELA .M. MASESE  
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER – KENYA**

**Your Excellencies**

**Mr. HOSHI Hirofumi, Deputy Director-General of the Tokyo  
International Center of JICA**

**Mr. YAMASHITA Terutoshi; Director of UNAFEI**

**Mr. MORINAGA Taro, Deputy Director of UNAFEI**

**Honorable Members of the Diplomatic Corps**

**Faculty and staff of UNAFEI,**

**Distinguished guests,**

**Fellow participants,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

I am deeply honored to be given the opportunity to make this  
farewell speech on behalf of my fellow participants. Writing a farewell

speech is indeed a daunting task as it touches on issues of disengagement with persons one has had the pleasure to socialize and appreciate one another; as the list is endless. It also brings forth emotions of happiness and sadness in equal measure. Happiness because we are finally going back to our beloved countries and families; sadness because we will be leaving behind new friends with whom we have spent five weeks and bonded to become a new family.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of my fellow participants to convey our sincere and profound gratitude to the Government of Japan, JICA, UNAFEI, ACPF and our individual country governments for providing us the opportunity to participate in this vibrant and unique course.

About 40 days ago we were welcomed in Japan. Our bags were packed with uncertainty and apprehension. We were all different people, different cultures, yet expectations were emanating from our pores. We came to fulfill a task of sharing our experiences and discussing future directions regarding

effective *training for correctional leadership*, especially in the fields of understanding international standards and norms in treatment of offenders, organizing training based on effective training methods, enhancing organizational culture of integrity, stress management and promotion of cooperation in capacity building with other organizations.

The 161<sup>st</sup> training involved **14** overseas participants, from different countries and **4** Japanese participants all working in the criminal justice system ranging from the justice departments Police, Prosecution, judiciary, correctional institutions and probation departments. The theme of the training was “*Staff training for correctional leadership*” with focus on effective training methods, understanding and respecting international standards and norms and treatment of difficult offenders.

It is only in the recent past that concerns of a comprehensive curriculum of effective training methodologies for correctional staff; addressing emerging crime trends, has started receiving due attention and has eventually become an area of global concern.

Difficult offenders like terrorists, money launderers, sexual related offenders and human traffickers have unique characteristics and challenges that need to be mitigated through specialized and effective training programmes.

Participants shared their countries' experiences on staff training and in addition to UNAFEI faculty, visiting expert lectures, adhoc lectures, visitation by VPOS (*The back bone Probation work in Japan*). Group discussions and visits to relevant institutions served to enrich the course. Future directions in implementing effective training curriculum and good practices were identified and will serve as guides to implementation of the same in our individual countries.

Ultimately, improvement of training curriculum through development of training manuals, lesson plans, mentorship, OJT and use of international instruments in correction work were identified as measures that would help improve service delivery of correctional staff.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

I do believe that the objectives of this course were fully achieved and the participants now bear the responsibility of utilizing the knowledge achieved and establishing networks for the exchange of updated information on the practices of their respective countries.

These objectives would not have been achieved without the diligent organization of the humble Mr. YAMASHITA, **Director** of UNAFEI and his dedicated team of professionals. We congratulate your excellent organizational skills and deeply appreciate your efforts and those of your dedicated, patient and courteous faculty and staff who made our lives at UNAFEI comfortable.

Our sincere gratitude also goes to the following:

- Professor Toru Nagai, the programme officer and his able assistant Professor Satoshi Minoura for your efforts in ensuring the success of the 161<sup>st</sup> international training course.

- JICA officials and staff both at our countries and in Japan for their facilitation, hospitality, courtesy and orientation on Japanese culture and way of life which enabled us to settle down with ease.
- Ms Hisa the 161<sup>st</sup> training JICA coordinator for your patience and support during the entire five weeks. Ms. Hisa you were a mother to us and always endeavoured to make us comfortable taking us to the hospital, shopping, banking the list is endless. Arigatou Gozaimasu
- Visiting expert lecturers, faculty lecturers, and adhoc lecturers for sharing their experiences and enlightening us with current international trends and good practices that would serve to improve and enhance our training programs.
- Japanese participants (especially Suzuki San ,Muraguchi San Himrou San and Otomo San) whose presence made our lives much easier and more interesting. Our invaluable interactions, your patient responses to our inquiries, assistance while shopping, the

Asakusa trips and the numerous photos we took and the shared laughs will remain etched in our memories. Arigatou Gozaimasu.

- Fellow overseas participants with whom we have shared a wonderful five weeks interacting and learning about our various cultures and life experiences. Thank you for encouraging each other and making our stay in Japan memorable.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

During our stay at UNAFEI, we had the pleasure of meeting with various Government officials and distinguished personalities. Our gratitude goes to her Excellency MS.Kamikawa the Honourable Minister for Justice for her welcoming address and for dinner held and hosted by His Excellency Mr. Inada the Vice Minister for Justice and those of us who went to Fukushima we were hosted by Honorable Kameoka the Member of the House of Representatives. Arigatou Gozaimasu

We will not forget to appreciate various institutions such as correctional facilities in Tokyo detention House, Hiroshima District

Court, Kyoto District public Prosecution Office and Nishihonganji Byakkoto Half Way House for allowing us to get a glimpse of how the various institutions in the Japanese Criminal Justice System work. It is worth mentioning that the synergy between the criminal justice agencies in Japan is quite commendable.

I wish to extend our deepest appreciation to the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF) and its prefectural branches for organizing and facilitating wonderful tour programmes.

The Yosakoi festival and the several dinner parties; the culmination of the grand barbecue. That was truly an awesome and unforgettable experience.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

During our stay at UNAFEI we were not given a chance to feel homesick. Our five weeks were filled with various activities, trips and visits that enriched our learning experience. Table tennis tournaments, Japanese lessons, Japanese Tea Ceremony, karaoke entertainment sessions, visits to museums and temples all made our life lively and

wonderful. The bullet train trip to Hiroshima and its scenic, breathtaking mountains beauty was truly awesome. The visit to the historical Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park was a humbling experience and enshrines global peace.

We will not forget to mention that the interaction with Voluntary Probation Officers who exposed us to experiences of successful community rehabilitation processes undertaken by members of the community. Please accept our sincere gratitude for you opened your homes, cooked delicious meals for us to us and you opened the gates of your gardens for us to test your juicy fruits. Arigatou Gozaimasu .May you be blessed for the good work you are doing in the community.

Special tribute to UNAFEI catering department for a job well done ,the meals which were always ready on time and not only well cooked but also well garnished. The housekeeping was very perfect.

Finally I want to say that we will sincerely miss the welcoming and farewell staff line ups whenever we were departing or returning from visits. That and the efficient time keeping are indeed amazing.

Fellow participants please join me in saying a big thank you to all persons who played a role in making our stay at UNAFEI memorable and to all of you who took your time to attend this farewell ceremony,

**ARIGATO GOZAIMASHITA.**