27th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Statement by Mr. Keisuke Senta

UNAFEI Director

Agenda item 6 : Integration and coordination of efforts by the　United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

(e) : Other activities in support of the work of the UNODC, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies.

Thank you, Mr./Madam Chair,

It’s a pleasure to have this opportunity to update the Commission on UNAFEI’s recent activities. As you know UNAFEI is an institute established in 1962 by agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Japan with the aim of promoting the sound development of criminal justice systems and mutual cooperation.

In the last October, UNAFEI has just moved to the new facility in Akishima-city from Fuchu-city where we have been operating since 1982. I would like to invite those who are intended to visit our brand new building.

 As a United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network Institute, UNAFEI and JICA has been supporting the UN programme primarily by providing training courses and seminars for criminal justice personnel.

In selecting the themes of its courses and seminars, UNAFEI matches the needs of the participating countries with the priority areas of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, as identified by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Commission.

In 2018, the themes of UNAFEI’s international training programmes are the “Countermeasures against Illicit Drug Related Crimes” and “Criminal Justice Response to Crimes Motivated by Intolerance or Discrimination.”

In 2019, the themes of UNAFEI’s international training programmes are the “Countermeasures against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants” and “Treatment of Offenders to Prevent Reoffending and Facilitate Social Inclusion.”

The 2019 UNAFEI Flyer is available in this conference room.

The outcome of each training course and seminar is shared not only with the course participants but also with criminal justice practitioners around the world through the publication of the “Resource Material Series”, which you can obtain by accessing our website, www.unafei.or.jp/english/

Mr. /Madam Chair,

One theme to which UNAFEI attaches particular importance is countermeasures against corruption. During the previous fiscal year, UNAFEI organized two anti-corruption training programmes. From November to December 2017, UNAFEI held the 20th UNAFEI UNCAC Training Programme, which focused on effective measures to investigate the proceed of corruption crimes. This six week training course was attended by 28 participants from overseas and Japan.

In October 2017, UNAFEI co-hosted a regional seminar in Hanoi, Vietnam which focused on best practices in anti-corruption. This was the eleventh annual seminar on “Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries”. The seminar was conducted as a joint effort by UNAFEI and the Supreme People’s Procuracy of Vietnam (SPP). Eighteen criminal justice officials from 9 Southeast Asian countries attended the seminar. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to the government of Vietnam, especially to the SPP for their

tremendous contribution and support for the success of the seminar.

Mr. /Madam Chair,

UNAFEI has played an active part in past United Nations Congresses, including the coordination and planning of workshops. UNAFEI organized and coordinated workshops at the Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses. At the Tenth Congress, held in Vienna in 2000, our workshop addressed “Crimes Related to the Computer Network”. At the Eleventh Congress, held in Bangkok in 2005, the topic addressed “Measures to Combat Economic Crime”, including Money-laundering”. At the Twelfth Congress, held in Salvador, Brazil in 2010, UNAFEI coordinated a workshop on “Strategies and Best Practices against Overcrowding in Correctional Facilities”. At the Thirteenth Congress, held in Doha in 2015, we helped coordinate the workshop on the treatment and rehabilitation of women and children.

The 14th Crime Congress will be hosted by the government of Japan in 2020. As the PNI member in the host country, UNAFEI hopes to play an active role in the preparation for the next Congress. UNAFEI is coordinating and planning of workshop on Reducing Re-offending-Identifying Risks and Developing Solutions for the Kyoto Congress.

UNAFEI also hosted yesterday the side event on reducing reoffending during this commission co-sponsored by Thailand Institute of Justice.

Mr./Madam Chair,

UNAFEI’s alumni form a strong international network, which now consists of more than 5,700 former participants from over 138 countries/regions. Many alumni have been serving in important positions within their governments and have been playing leading roles in the field of criminal justice. This alumni network, taking a people-centered approach, fosters international cooperation in criminal justice around the world.

Our activities are greatly assisted by the cooperation and support of various organizations, such as the UNODC, our fellow Programme Network Institutes, JICA and especially the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation. On behalf of UNAFEI, I would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation to them all.

In closing, let me reassure you of UNAFEI’s continued support for the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

Thank you very much for your attention.