## National Diet Library Newsletter

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The 4th Mutual Visit Program between the National Diet Library, the National Assembly Library of Korea and the National Assembly Research Service



<< NDL delegation, Ms. Izumi (left) and Mr. Orimoto (right), at the National Assembly >>

The fourth visit program with the <u>National Assembly Library</u> (NAL) and the <u>National Assembly Research Service</u> (NARS) of Korea was held from December 9 to 15, 2012 in Seoul. Two staff members of the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau, Ms. Makiko Izumi (Director, Social Welfare and Labor Division) and Mr. Takashi Orimoto (Assistant Director, Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Division), visited the NAL and the NARS for this year's program.

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Paper session with NAL: Legislative Information Database: Current Status and Its Tasks

- NDL presentation by Mr. Takashi Orimoto
- NAL presentation by Ms. Eun Joo Shim, Deputy Director, Economic and Social Information Division, Parliamentary Information Office

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<< NDL delegation with Chief Librarian Mr. Hwang and staff members of the NAL >>

In the session with NAL, Mr. Orimoto reported on the summary of legislative information databases provided by the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau and a new legislative information webpage intended to provide Japanese people with the information generated by the Diet as a bridge between the two. Ms. Shim gave an outline of the Legislative Knowledge Database currently provided by the NAL and its successor called "NEXT (New Expertise Think and Talk)" to be released around September 2013.

In addition to the session, the delegation had briefings on the Parliamentary Information Office and the Law Library of the NAL. They also visited the Korea Tourism Organization to inspect the current status of medical tourism in Korea.

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Paper session with NARS: Policy Responses to Aging Society

- NDL presentation by Ms. Makiko Izumi
- NARS presentation by Dr. Si Yeon Won, Legislative Researcher, Health, Welfare, Family and Gender Equality Team

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<< NDL delegation with NARS staff >>

In the session with NARS, Ms. Izumi presented the comprehensive reform of tax and social security along with the current status of demographic aging and the social security system in Japan. Dr. Won introduced the current status of population aging in Korea and the Saero-Maji Plan, a basic plan for the low fertility and aging society. These reports were followed by a question-and-answer session with questions on, for example, the pension system, financial problems, poverty of the elderly, elderly care services and immigration policy in the context of a dwindling population. With major elections imminent in both countries (the presidential election in Korea and the election of the House of Representatives in Japan), they exchanged views on the restructuring of the social security system, one of the outstanding issues in both election campaigns.

Besides the session, the delegates attended the "Presentation on the Distribution Memoranda" by an NARS researcher. During their stay, they also visited the National Assembly Memorial Hall and the National Assembly Television Center.

## Links

- ► Outline of the programs
- ► Reports of past programs in the NDL Newsletter

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