

## P R E F A C E

The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund, known as SYLFF, is a worldwide fellowship program administered by the Scholarship Division of the Tokyo Foundation. Established in 1987, SYLFF aims at nurturing future leaders around the world who can transcend national, cultural, religious, and other “boundaries” and collaborate to tackle various challenges, both local and global, that face humankind at a time when the world is experiencing ever-increasing globalization. In the past 22 years, more than 11,000 students have received SYLFF fellowships for their graduate studies at 68 SYLFF endowed institutions in 44 countries.

In 2007, the Tokyo Foundation organized SYLFF Regional Forums in three regions of the world in collaboration with SYLFF institutions in each respective region, i.e., North and South Americas, Africa and Europe, and Asia and the Pacific. Discussions were conducted under the common theme, “Human Rights and Creative Leadership.” The forums took place in June at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, U.S.A., and at Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany; and in November at Jadavpur University, India. All participants brainstormed about elements of leadership and how they can collaborate and make a positive impact on society by using the *Networking and Programs for Social Action (NAPSA)* leadership toolkit that was created by the SYLFF Fellows Council (SFC), and the Structured Learning Experience (SLE), which is the core of the NAPSA toolkit; presented their approaches to the theme; and had a chance to think about their approach as applied to real society by participating in volunteer programs. In addition to these planned events, over the course of four days the forum participants encountered the different cultures represented by participants and their diverse range of opinions.

It is our pleasure to publish selected papers based on the theme of the regional forum. The process of screening was as follows: The nineteen papers that were submitted after the forums were reviewed firstly by four faculty members from SYLFF institutions in each respective region who specialize in fields related to the theme, and secondly by three representatives of the SFC and two members of the Tokyo Foundation’s Scholarship Programs Advisory Board (SPAB), based on the first

reviewers’ rankings. They are presented here in their original form. The foreword was written by Professor Yozo Yokota, an expert in public international law and international human rights law at Chuo Law School, who has been a special advisor to the Rector of the United Nations University, and a member of ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, and president of the Center for Human Rights Affairs.

We hope that this publication will serve as a key to opening many substantial discussions and will stimulate action-oriented thinking in all possible corners of the world.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation particularly to the following people: the aforementioned SYLFF endowed institutions who hosted the Regional Forums during 2007; the academics who reviewed the submitted papers: Professor Jeremy Sarkin (The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University/University of the Western Cape), Professor Dr. Carlos Azzoni (University of São Paulo), Dr. Jean-François Prud’homme (El Colegio de México), Professor Dr. Wilhelm Löwenstein (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), Dr. Earl Sullivan (The American University in Cairo), Professor Dr. Jon Ortiz de Urbina (University of Deusto), Professor Dr. David Newman (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), Dr. Deng Ya (Peking University), Dr. Joyashree Roy (Jadavpur University), and Professor Philip Yetton (The University of New South Wales); two SPAB members: Dr. David Leyton-Brown (York University) and Dr. Peter Scheid (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), for their dedication in reviewing the papers; members of the SFC of the year 2007 for their proactive involvement and contributions to the regional forums, especially Paulina Alejandra Berríos Cortés (University of Chile), Felix P. H. Böllmann (University of Leipzig), and Štěpán Holub (Charles University, Czech Republic), for reviewing the papers; Professor Yozo Yokota for his informative introduction; and finally, The Nippon Foundation for being the donor in this effort to support young leaders who are the promising leaders of tomorrow.

Scholarship Division,  
The Tokyo Foundation  
March 2009