Policy Seminar: Current Initiatives and Challenges at the National Diet Library, Japan

IFLA 33rd Pre-Conference of the Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section – Information as the foundation for social solidarity: the role of parliamentary libraries and research services

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Policy Seminar

- Since 2007
- Organized exclusively for Diet Members, and their staff as well as for each political party and the Secretariats of both Houses of the Diet
- A means of publicizing our analytical products already published
Policy Seminar - Overview

- **1h session** with presentation and Q&A
- About 20 seminars are held annually with various themes
Policy Seminar

Considered as one of the most effective measures for directly delivering the results of our published research to Diet Members and other participants.
Innovative Element of Seminars: Human Resource Development

- Various skills needed:
  - analyzing issues precisely
  - writing articles
  - arranging the power point files
  - preparing for the presentation as well as the questions from the floor

- For junior researchers, guidance, advice and suggestions from the senior specialists and directors indispensable
Current Initiatives

- Joint Policy Seminar
- Seminars based on the Research Projects
- Seminars which deal with the multi-disciplinary topics
Our Challenge

- making seminars more active and relevant to the Diet Members, especially in order to increase attendance
- Generally, to create a closer relationship with them and to expand our role as the “brains of the legislature” would be the focal point
Fig.1
A circular of the Policy Seminar “The Japan – U.S. relationship under the Trump administration” (June 8, 2017)
Fig. 2
Questionnaire for the participants of the Policy Seminar
Asked in the questionnaire:

- evaluations for this seminar
- preferred day of the week as well as time
- general impressions and ideas for seminars (style, contents, etc.)
- themes which would be worth following in seminars
Thank you