

Accreditation Ceremony
“Microfinance Training of Trainers Distance Learning Course”
Tokyo Development Learning Center, Tokyo
5 February 2007

Congratulatory Message
by
Masahiro Kawai
Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute

Good afternoon in Tokyo, good morning in some other parts of Asia and possibly good evening in the rest of the world. On behalf of the Asian Development Bank Institute, I am happy to say congratulations to all the certified trainers of the “Microfinance Training of Trainers Distance Learning Course” who participated from 13 countries. ADBI has been a partner with the Tokyo Development Learning Center and the World Bank Institute in offering the 3rd round of this innovative microfinance distance learning course. I believe the course has been a tremendous success.

It is a great pleasure for me to address all of you at this accreditation ceremony. Your hard work and success have earned you the privilege of being here today.

With millions of poor people still without any access to affordable credit and financing, more hard work lies ahead for all of you. The short supply of microfinance experts and professionals in many developing countries has been one of the main constraints to microfinance development. I hope the certificate you earn today will prove to be a stepping stone for you to become truly instrumental in expanding small-scale credit and financing for the poor in your countries and in the Asia-Pacific region. I hope the completion of this course is the promising beginning of another journey for all of you. I wish you the best of luck and success for your future.