

Preface

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PREFACE

This report is the proceedings of IDE Africa Project's International Workshop on "Southern Africa after Democratization" held on January 24, 1996 in IDE, Tokyo.

After the end of the cold war, the political democratization of Southern Africa is ongoing rapidly. It means 1) the transition from the one-party system to the multi-party system, 2) the democratic election under the multi-party system, 3) the abolishment of Marxist-Leninism, 4) the end of civil war in Angola and Mozambique and 5) the dismantling of apartheid regime and the birth of a new democratic state in South Africa.

In spite of it, the political stability has not yet achieved. Among the various reasons of it, it seems that the biggest reason is the economic factor. Almost Southern African countries are forced to implement the structural adjustment programme by IMF and the World Bank. This programme has neglected the social dimensions and consequently the poor and the vulnerable people have complained of their government policies.

The first aim of Africa Project is to examine the various factors of the political instability in Southern African countries after the democratization.

At the same time, following to the democratization of South Africa, the relationship between South Africa and the other Southern Africa has changed from conflict to cooperation. Consequently, the existing three regional organizations SACU, SADC and COMESA have intended to change their characters and to reorganize themselves. In August 1994, South Africa became a member of SADC. However, as the economic disparity between South Africa and the other Southern African countries is too large, it is crucial to achieve the relationship of equity, balance and mutual benefits among them.

The second aim of Africa Project is to examine the options or the possibilities of economic integration in Southern Africa.

In order to examine these problems, we invited two scholars from South Africa, namely Dr. Chris Alden (University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg) and Mr. Rashad Cassim (University of Cape Town, Cape Town) to this workshop and exchanged the opinions on these problems. Through the discussion, invaluable comments and informations were set forth by the participants.

I wish to express my gratitude to the reporters, the commentators and the other participants.

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Coordinator of the Africa Project
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