

PREFACE

Due to the evolution of market-oriented economy as well as the increase of cross-border transactions, there is an urgent need to research and make comparison of judicial systems and role of law in development in Asian countries. Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO) established two research committees in FY 2000: Committee on ‘Law and Development on Economic and Social Development’ and Committee on ‘Judicial Systems in Asia.’ The former committee focuses on the role of law in social and economic development and seeks for its theoretical legal framework. The study conducted by member researchers ranges from marketization, development assistant and law to environment, labor, consumer and law. The latter committee studied the judicial systems and its reforms in process in Asian countries for further analysis of dispute resolution process therein.

In order to facilitate the committees’ activity, IDE organized joint research work with research institutions in seven Asian countries, namely, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. This publication is the outcome submitted from each counter-partners on *judicial systems and reforms in Asian Countries*. The purpose of the study was to research and analyze the current situation and reforms of judicial systems in Asian countries. In order to compare the judicial system and its reforms among the respective countries, each counter-partner were asked to include the following common contents, i.e. Judiciary and Judge, Prosecutor/Prosecuting Attorney, Advocate/Lawyer, Legal Education, Procedure/Proceedings, ADR etc., together with information of Statistical Data and Recent Trends and Movements.

We believe that this comprehensive work is unprecedented and we hope that this publication will contribute as a research material and for further understandings of legal issues we share.

Institute of Developing Economies