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## Closing Speech

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First of all, I would like to thank you all for attending the two-day Roundtable Meeting. Your participation in the presentations and discussions made this two-day meeting very fruitful.

As Dr. Pangalangan just mentioned in his closing remarks, we had many findings concerning Law and Development and the Judicial System and its Reform. The presentations from different Asian countries and discussions from different points of view made a common ground for mutual understanding, and I am sure we were all able to get new ideas for our future studies and practices.

As Mr. Sakumoto explained in his opening speech, this Roundtable Meeting was planned as a part of the two Research Committees held in Japan, that is “the Research Committee on Law and Development in Economic and Social Development” and “the Research Committee on Judicial Systems in Asia”, and the 9 Joint Research Projects held with 7 countries, for mutual understanding of legal systems and their reforming process in Asian Countries, and for promoting research cooperation among research counterparts. The final reports of the Joint Research Projects will be distributed to all the counter-parts who participated this meeting, and I am sure this will be our common asset and a big contribution to the academic circle.

This is only possible because of your kind and devoted participation in the Joint Studies.

Thus, on behalf of the Institute of Developing Economies, I would like to express our gratitude toward the distinguished speakers, moderators, and other participants who took part in this meeting, and especially to Dean Pangalangan and his colleagues from the University of the Philippines who have supported the Roundtable Meeting to be fruitful and made our stay enjoyable in Manila.

I would like to announce the closing of the Roundtable Meeting now, but I am sure that we will be keeping in close contact for future cooperation and friendship.

Thank you.