Afterword

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	作成者: 陳, 天璽
	メールアドレス:
	所属:
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This book records the international conference "Human Rights and Support for Stateless People around the World: Japan's Role" which was held on February 27, 2011. As a relevant event of the conference, we screened "Cannot Live without You" at Minpaku World Cinema on the day before the conference which was made based on a true story in Taiwan. Each and every day, these events were open to general public. Especially at the international conference recorded in this book, we discussed about the life of people who are statelessness, problems they face, and issue of legal systems of each country.

The discussion was very valuable which included opinions not only of specialists and researchers but also of NGO activists and citizens based on their on-site activities. Furthermore, since information on statelessness is very rare, I was really inclined to have many people both inside and outside Japan to know about the record of the conference. This is why I attempted to publish the book both in English and Japanese. In the process of editing, I was annoyed with difference of words and terms in each country on statelessness and also with the difficulty in translation. In the process of peer review before publication, I received valuable comments and harsh suggestions from referees. Because of this, it took a fair amount of time before the second proof. Besides, we must apologize for the delay of the time of editing and publication of this book since the editor transferred from the National Museum of Ethnology to Waseda University during the process.

Now, as a coordinator as well as an editor of this international conference report, I am very delightful that we can eventually deliver this book to every one of you. I have to thanks to the effort of the people involved who supported the international conference. I was especially encouraged by Prof. Motoi Suzuki, the coordinator of the Core Research Project "Anthropology of Supporting". I also appreciate the contribution by Marie Nakamura and Mayumi Tokuhira for their support on editing. Without their steady effort and their warm smile, the publication of this book would not have been possible. Even after I left the post of Minpaku, they still gave support. Lastly, I would like to report with my most cordial acknowledgment that this project as well as editing and publication of this book owe much to the aid funded by the National Museum of Ethnology for the Core Research Project and by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (A) titled "The Anthropology of Nationality and Passports" (Coordinator: CHEN Tien-Shi). As well as Grant-in Aid for Basic Research (B) titled "Social Inclusion and Studies of Applied

Anthropology" (Coordinator: SUZUKI Motoi).

This memorable year marks the sixtieth year since "United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Parsons" was concluded in 1954. It is my greatest pleasure to be able to issue this book in the very year. Through this book, I would like to have many people learn the current situation of Thailand, France and Japan. Also, by revealing the problems Japan faces and specifying them clearly and broadly, I do hope this book will be of some help to call much attention to statelessness problems which socially remains little known and to improve those problems.

CHEN Tien-shi