

Position Statement of the SRA-Japan for the best relationship with the SRA

Executive Council of the SRA-Japan

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The SRA requires the regional organization by the bylaw draft:

“Officers and voting members of the regional organization must be members of the SRA. Regional organization bylaws and subsequent amendments must be approved by the SRA council”.

Reflecting this move, the Society for Risk Analysis Japan (SRA-Japan) would like to clarify our position on the regional organization as the following message.

The SRA-Japan has been collaborating with the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) to promote the research and practice of risk analysis since its establishment in 1988 with the assistance of and in good cooperative relationship with the SRA. At the beginning, all the members were among the SRA. No admission rule, however, was made in the SRA Japan that all members must join the SRA. This has, in fact, helped many Japanese members to join the society in order to extend our academic activities of risk analysis in Japan. Currently, our society is composed of more than 600 members.

In 2006, the SRA-Japan changed its bylaw that our society was officially independent of the SRA in terms of organization management while keeping collaboration with the SRA. The SRA-Japan had been managing its office, officers, budget independently of the SRA. The SRA-Japan holds its annual meeting and symposium every year by ourselves, and also owns its academic journal published quarterly, news letter (both in Japanese), and also cooperatively supports the Journal of Risk Research with the SRA-Europe as its official English journal. On these background, the revision of the previous bylaw of the SRA-Japan were to remove the description as called "the parent and child relationship" between SRA Japan and the Society for Risk Analysis, and to add a new sentence to further foster closer relationship among the SRA-Japan. The SRA-Japan formally presented the report on the revision to the SRA titled by 'A Proposal of New Relationship between the Society for Risk Analysis, Japan and the Society for Risk Analysis' on 21 November, 2005.

In 2010, the SRA-Japan was formally authorized to be an incorporated association under the Japanese law (the Act on General Incorporated Associations and General Incorporated Foundations of 2008). The membership and the accounting management must be prescribed in accordance with the law where all the members must have the vote. It is essential for the academic societies in Japan to move to authorized incorporated associations in order to be transparent and trustworthy in their management.

Having these situations, the SRA-Japan would like to walk in step with the SRA in a consistent way as much as possible. Our position is to fundamentally support the suggested global structure of regional organization proposed by the SRA whereas

our academic activities must comply with the Japanese law. We fully notice that the SRA has been taking leadership in globalization of risk analysis and risk-based practices by putting regional organizations into one world. To extend the academic activities and effectively promote them, however, regional circumstances should be taken into account. Self-governing decision under the Japanese law is required to develop further innovating meetings for task groups and so on when our society makes progress.

In order to build a more close relationship with the SRA, the SRA-Japan can willingly encourage the members to join the SRA by informing the merit of journal subscription, etc. In addition, we may be able to make decision that the SRA-Japan officers should be a member of the SRA. The SRA-Japan is now making efforts to play our role among regional organizations in east Asian countries, which are Korea, China and Taiwan, in order to build a solid and flexible friendship like an international league. The SRA-Japan has a strong desire that the coming congress, the World Congress on Risk in Singapore, should succeed, which needs close collaboration among the regional organizations in the east Asian countries.

In conclusion, the SRA-Japan would like to propose the SRA should play a role in constructing a better new academic relationship in a more flexible way considering the particular situations in regional organizations in order to extend risk analysis and risk-based practice among east Asian countries and others.