

UNIDO Group Tour to International Robot Exhibition iREX 2009 and Reception

25 November 2009 at Tokyo Big Sight

Tour : 15 :30-17 :00

Reception : 17 :30-19 :00

Summary Report

UNIDO ITPO Tokyo organized a group tour for some embassies in Tokyo on the occasion of the International Robot Exhibition 2009 (iREX 2009) organized by the Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun and the Japan Robot Association (JARA).

Eleven (11) diplomats from Brazil, Egypt, India, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, South Africa and Sri Lanka joined the tour, which was organized by Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun's Mr. Hideyuki Takahashi, officer in charge of international participation to events, as follows:

- Explanation of the exhibition, participating companies and organizations, and layout of the exhibition floor
- Visit to 2 company booths with explanation of their products: Kawada Industries, Inc. (for humanoid industrial robots) and Fanuc Ltd. (for industrial robots).
- Free time and tour of the exhibition including university/R&D corner and NEDO corner.

After the close of the exhibition, a majority of the diplomats joined the official reception and had a chance to meet and discuss with organizers and industry specialists. UNIDO staff interacted with representatives of the Japan Robot Association and Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun.

It was understood that participants felt that the exhibition provided them a good insight of the advanced robotic technologies developed in Japan. It was further noted that particularly countries such as Brazil, India, Mexico, and South Africa showed interest in potential business applications of industrial robots.

The next International Robot Exhibition is due to be held in 2011.