

## JILPT Research Activities

### (International Workshop)

1. On February 17, 2006, JILPT held the “Workshop on International Migration and Labour Market in Asia” in Tokyo, an event organized with support from the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). This workshop, which is convened once each year, is a vehicle used to pool statistical data on “migration” in the Asia region in one year and government policy responses to these trends, in seeking to share that information, study feasible policy directions and examine other issues. In support of that goal, participation in this year’s gathering included experts and policymakers from China, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia and Japan.

The workshop holds a session on a specific topic each year, with the subject chosen for this year’s get-together consisting of the need for “bilateral agreements” that have come to be signed between countries for acceptance of foreign workers from Asia. The OECD and the ILO presented reports on this theme, with case studies from Malaysia, Korea and Taiwan also examined and further explored in the discussion session. The papers submitted to the workshop, along with other pertinent data, will soon be posted on the JILPT website.

2. On February 21, 2006, JILPT hosted “The 8<sup>th</sup> JILPT Comparative Labor Law Seminar” in Tokyo, an event used to address the theme of “Decentralizing Industrial Relations and the Role of Labor Unions and Employee Representatives.” Invited to take part in the gathering were researchers from Britain, Germany, France, Italy, the United States, Australia, Korea and Taiwan, who joined in discussions of the key issues with their Japanese counterparts. The submitted papers will be published and are scheduled to be posted on the JILPT website.