

Science Council of Japan: The System since the 20th Period

*Masaru Kono¹

1. Tokyo Institute of Technology

The Science Council of Japan was established in 1949, and actively submitted many recommendations and opinions to the government. But the relation between the government and the SCJ was not smooth all the time. The law of the SCJ was updated in 2004, and a new system for the SCJ was introduced in 2005 at the start of the 20th Period.

The important changes implemented at the 20th Period are (1) the SCJ consists of 3 Sections instead of the former 7 divisions, (2) the members are elected by co-optation, and others. In the area of science familiar with us, the most important change was, (3) whereas there were separate Kenkyu-Renraku-linkais for Geology, Geography, and Geophysics before the change, all of these disciplines were merged into a single disciplinary committee of Earth and Planetary Sciences.

This system was continued to the present day without big changes. Accordingly, we need to examine the system since 2005 to understand the problems the SCJ is facing today.

Keywords: The Science Council of Japan