Speech at JISPA 30th Anniversary Event By Mr. Behzod Saylixonovich Hamraev, Deputy Chairman, Central Bank of Uzbekistan

November 16, 2023

Distinguished professors, esteemed guests, and my fellow JISPA alumni,

It is a huge privilege to stand before you today as we celebrate **the 30th anniversary of the Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia**. This extraordinary program has left an unforgettable mark on the economic landscape of the Asia-Pacific region.

When I reflect on my time at **GRIPS University** as a JISPA scholar in 2014–2016, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude for the transformative impact this program had on my career. The JISPA experience provided me with an unparalleled opportunity to not only acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of economics but also to make **lifelong bonds of friendship and solidarity** with fellow students from diverse backgrounds.

The program's emphasis on **sustainable economic growth, financial stability, and human capital development** echoed deeply with my aspirations for my home country of Uzbekistan. I brightly recall the stimulating discussions we had in our study rooms and the shared challenges we overcame together. These are precious memories for me.

Upon returning to Uzbekistan, I carried with me the valuable lessons and insights gained through the JISPA Program. Today, I stand before you as the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Uzbekistan, a position that allows me to directly contribute to the **economic reforms** that our nation has been pursuing since 2016.

It is with great pride that I can attest the transformative power of the JISPA Program. The program's alumni are now directly involved in implementing the vital economic reforms. They hold key positions in the Central Bank of Uzbekistan and other macroeconomic policy institutions, bringing their expertise and insights to help implement the **most critical economic decisions** in our country.

In a world increasingly marked by fragmentation, the JISPA Program's emphasis on **multicultural exchange** is more crucial than ever. The program's commitment to raising future leaders from the Asia-Pacific region is essential for fostering mutual understanding and addressing shared challenges.

As we look to the future, I am confident that the JISPA Program will continue to play an important role in shaping the **economic landscape of the region**.

On this momentous occasion, I commend the **organizers and sponsors of the JISPA Program** for their solid commitment to fostering future leaders and promoting economic development in the Asia-Pacific region. The program's legacy of excellence is evident in the remarkable achievements of its alumni, who are making a tangible impact on their home countries.

Thank you.