

**Statement by Ms. KOIKE Yuriko, Minister of the
Environment of Japan**

at

**The 10th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
Change**

**High-level segment: The 10th Anniversary of the Entry into
Force of the Convention**

***Panel Discussion on the Convention after 10 years:
Accomplishments and Future Challenges***

**(Common basis created by the Convention over the
past decade)**

In the ten years since the entry into force of the Convention, the basis upon which around 190 nations will jointly take measures to address climate change has been formulated. This basis is a great asset to us and it is crucial that we not spoil the time and effort that have been invested in it thus far.

be “one small step” in the sense of reductions of GHG emissions, yet I believe it is indeed “one giant leap” insofar as the world community has come together, hand in hand, to undertake concrete actions to tackle climate change.

I again urge nations which have not yet ratified the Protocol to ratify it in a timely manner to enhance further our actions against climate change so as to save our Planet Earth from environmental tragedy.

(Japan will fulfill its reduction commitment stipulated in the Protocol)

Currently, the government of Japan is undertaking a review of its Climate Change Policy Program in order to fulfill its commitments under the Protocol. The present level of GHG emissions in Japan is approximately 8% above the level of the base year. Thus our realization of our 6% GHG reduction commitment will not be an easy task. Japan's Climate Change Policy Program calls for additional policies and measures in order to ensure the attainment of our

Japan take next to follow up on the Protocol? Scientific knowledge provides us with some hints for these next steps. The International Panel on Climate Change, among others, has contributed to discussions under the Convention by providing objective scientific and technical advice on climate change. It is necessary for Japan to formulate further climate policies on the basis of the knowledge contributed by the IPCC and by other members of the scientific community.

(Review of scientific knowledge and future actions)

The IPCC stresses that global emissions of greenhouse gases must begin a downward trend in the near future if we are to realize the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC. Yet on the contrary, total global emissions of CO₂ have been increasing, and as a result, there has also been an increase in the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases. Means of filling the gap between what we must do and the current reality and ensuring the feasibility of climate

The unusual weather we have witnessed in recent years around the globe is sending a warning to us with regard to climate change. The time for individual countries to cooperate in taking concrete actions is now. Japan recommits itself to promoting future measures proactively in close cooperation with the international community based on the discussions and agreements that have been made thus far.

各位へ小瀬

名井審判官の 発言 となります。

Japan

Technology and Climate Change (COP10 High-Level Segment, Agenda 3)

Statement by Deputy Director-General of the Agency for Natural Resources and
Energy, Mr Hajime MYOI

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Development of innovative technologies, together with diffusion of existing technologies, is extremely important in achieving the ultimate objective of the convention.

Recognizing the essential role that technologies can play, the Government of Japan is actively implementing its own R&D programs, in areas such as photovoltaic power, fuel cells and carbon sequestration, by utilizing the revenue from energy taxes. We are also carrying out a number of policies and measures to encourage R&D activities by the private sector. As a result of such efforts by both the public and private sector, Japan's energy efficiency has ^{been} reached the world's highest level. Also, with a view to contributing to the global community through our experience and knowledge, Japan participates in international initiatives, such as the "Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum", "International Partnership for Hydrogen Economy" and "Climate Technology Initiative".

(1) Development of innovative technologies

Mr. Chairman, since development of innovative technologies must proceed from a long-term perspective and involves some risks, governments themselves need to play a major role. New technologies, if successfully developed, can contribute to global emission reduction, as seen in the cases of Japan's photovoltaic technology and Danish wind power technology. Japan firmly believes that with a view to elaborating future climate actions, Parties should discuss how efforts toward the development of innovative technologies should be strengthened both nationally and internationally.

(2) Diffusion of existing technologies

At the same time, for diffusion of existing technologies, private-sector ~~activities~~ need to be encouraged through policies and measures. *activities by the* Given the competitiveness implications and the need for balance between the environment and the economy, Japan is of the view that cross-border and sectoral intensity improvement is an effective action that Parties should consider as part of future climate actions.

(3) Technology transfer to developing countries

Mr. Chairman, promoting technology transfer to developing countries is of enormous importance in accomplishing sustainable development. Over the years, Japan has progressed with energy conservation to address the issues of energy security and environmental ^{pollution}. Such efforts have also led to improved international competitiveness of our industry. Developed countries should enhance cooperation with developing countries by building on our own experiences [so that developing countries can accomplish economic prosperity in a more sustainable manner than developed countries have done.]

In this regard, further institutional development of CDM is necessary. In order to promote technology transfer, more opportunities need to be explored and promptly realized as CDM through collaboration by developed and developing countries, particularly for the energy-saving, renewable and transport sector. To this end, institutional arrangements should be improved for [further development of] CDM.

Thank you for your attention.

Mitigation of Climate Change: Policies and Their Impacts
(COP10 High Level Panel Agenda 4)

Statement by Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs
Mr. Itsunori ONODERA

Thank you, Mr. Chairman (Madame Chair),

Two years have passed since the importance of sustainable development was confirmed by both developed and developing countries at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. Next year, the review of UN Millennium Development Goals will take place. With the Kyoto Protocol finally entering into force in February next year, we are at a historic turning point where we must think about ways to improve our strategy on environment and development.

At this critical juncture, we must have a clear and long-term vision of how mitigation policies can contribute to sustainable economic development. There is an argument that mitigation increases burden on economic development, but we do not think so. In the 1970s, Japan suffered from severe environmental pollution. Since then, our public and private sectors made great efforts to reduce pollution, improve energy-efficiency and have achieved a better environment with internationally competitive industries. We increasingly recognize the importance of ensuring compatibility between economic development and environment. Now we try to go a step further to make economic development and environment mutually reinforcing in our efforts to achieve sustainable development. The record-making sales of Japanese hybrid cars in the world market, 270,000 vehicles in the past 8 years, demonstrates how mitigation can be a driving force of new business.

At present, Japan is making its utmost efforts to reduce GHG emission

with a view to meeting its 6% Kyoto target. More than 200 measures have been implemented under the current New Climate Change Policy Program, and a comprehensive review of the Program is now taking place to decide on necessary additional measures to meet the target.

Mr. Chairman (Madam Chair),

Governments around the world must now join hands in efforts to combat global warming by integrating mitigation in its national planning on economic development and energy security.

Capacity building is also one of the important tools to help developing countries to establish national development policy. Japan has been assisting developing countries with its Kyoto Initiative, providing training to 8,000 experts and extending assistance of 8 billion dollars to various mitigation projects in the past five years.

Furthermore, technology transfer will also play an ever-increasing role in strengthening mitigation through business activities. Japanese companies have some of the most advanced environmental technologies that contribute to sustainable development. In this regard, further institutional development of JI and CDM is necessary to encourage transfer of such technologies.

Japan will continue to promote these cooperation and undertakings, by making the best of nation-building assistance in developing countries.

Thank you.

“Japan’s Action on Adaptation: Building Capacity and Ownership”

The Government of Japan

The Government of Japan, bearing in mind critical importance of sustainable development in developing countries, will continue to provide comprehensive assistance on adaptation measures in these countries to address adverse effects of climate change, by taking advantage of Japan’s knowledge and expertise. The actions are summarized as follows:

1. Assistance through the promotion of development projects

(1) Bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Grant aid and loan aid mainly through the “Kyoto Initiative”:

Japan’s ODA in adaptation-related area, including the measures against natural disasters, amounts to approximately USD 1.8 billion in total over the period of FY 1997-2003.

***the Kyoto Initiative:** Japan presented this initiative in 1997 assisting developing countries to combat global warming through; (1) cooperation in capacity development, (2) ODA loans on concessional conditions, and (3) transfer of Japanese technology and know-how.

(2) Assistance to national land development and environment protection in developing countries

-Disaster Reduction and National Land Development:

“Initiative for disaster reduction through ODA”:

On the occasion of the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held in Kobe, Hyogo in January 2005, Japan’s basic policies and concrete measures for international cooperation on disaster reduction through ODA are to be announced.

-“Initiative on Japan’s ODA on Water”

As a part of Japan’s ODA in the field of water, following measures were announced in 2003.

- a) Providing drinking water and sanitation to poor countries and regions
- b) Addressing the needs to provide large-scale financing to urban areas
- c) Assisting capacity building

-“Asia Forest Partnership (AFP)”

This partnership, initiated in 2002, aims at promotion of sustainable forest management in Asia, through cooperation among Asian countries (primarily ASEAN countries), donor countries, international organizations and NGOs in such activities as measures against illegal logging, forest fire prevention, rehabilitation and reforestation of degraded lands, etc.

-Global Environmental Issues including Desertification:

“EcoISD”(Environmental Conservation Initiative for Sustainable Development)”

As a part of the four priority areas elements of the Action Plan, announced by the Government of Japan at WSSD in 2002, as Japan’s international cooperation on environmental issues mainly through ODA, this initiative includes the assistance in the areas of the management of nature reserves, forest-related issues, prevention of desertification, and natural resources management.

-“NERICA (New Rice for Africa) Project”

NERICA projects are high yielding upland rice varieties, suitable for semi-arid regions, developed by cross-breeding of African rice, which is resistant to diseases, weeds and drought, and Asian rice, which has high yields. Japan has been extending financial assistance to the research on NERICA since 1997, through CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) and UNDP Human Development Fund.

(3) Contribution to the GEF Trust Fund

Japan is one of the largest donors to the GEF Trust Fund, which assists, through trusted international organizations such as UNDP, capacity-building projects in adaptation (Japan has extended USD 1.21 billion from the pilot phase to date, GEF-3 3rd installment).

2. Capacity-building for governmental officials of developing countries

(1) The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) training courses

JICA provides a variety of training courses relevant to climate change adaptation with a view to assisting capacity-building of developing countries, namely, disaster reduction, water resource management, forest resource management, river management, and land development.

(2) Training courses on measures against global warming

Based on the Kyoto Initiative, JICA conducts training courses related to measures against global warming which includes a course entitled “Development of Strategies on Climate Change.” More than 174 government officials from developing countries have participated in this course since 1997.

3. Promotion of climate change research and human resources development in modeling activities

(1) Asia Pacific Seminar on Global Warming

Japan has been organizing the annual Asia Pacific Seminar on Global Warming since 1991 with the participation of the developing and developed countries in the region, aiming at improving knowledge on global warming, including adaptation, sharing experience and strengthening measures against global warming. Active exchange of views was held in the latest seminar in Sydney in September, organized with the help of the Government of Australia. As a result of this Seminar, AP-NET (Asia Pacific Global Warming Information Network) website was established and has been providing a wide range of information on global warming including adaptation.

(2) Asia Pacific Climate Change Research Network (APN)

Asia Pacific Climate Change Research Network (APN) is an inter-governmental network, which aims at promoting research on global environmental changes in Asia Pacific region. This Network aims at encouraging participation of developing country researchers to enhance cooperation between scientists and policymakers. The Network has been assisting a variety of researches on global environmental changes, including climate change and adaptation.

(3) Joint Research with South Pacific Countries

“Climate Variability and Change and Sea-level Rise in the Pacific Islands Region / A resource Book for Policy and Decision Makers, Educators and other Stakeholders” is a report made with the cooperation of the South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP). The Resource Book was created to provide knowledge on climate change and sea level rise which seriously affects South Pacific nations, to identify the gap between the reality and the local perception, to clarify the needs for counter measures and to present desirable directions for overcoming these effects. The Resource Book provides a wide range of information on relations between climate change and sea level rise, including adaptation measures.