MINUTE

THE SIXTH TRIPARTITE ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY

■ OUTLINES

Objective

To determine product categories for developing common criteria among three countries and to reach a consensus on working procedure for tripartite ecolabelling harmonization

Date

26th – 27th September 2006

Venue

Oriental Haitian Hotel, Yantai, Shandong Province, China

Participants: 41 Persons (The detailed list is in the Annex Table)

Participants from China: 14 Persons Participants from Japan: 17 Persons Participants from Korea: 10 Persons

■ DISCUSSED ISSUES

The sixth Tripartite Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry have been held in Yantai, Shandong Province, China, from 26th to 27th September 2006. Mr. Xu Shufan (China) made a welcoming speech at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Kazuyuki Harada (Japan) introduced the review of last Roundtable meeting held in Japan 2005. Ms. Wang Kaiyu (China) introduced the overview of the sixth Roundtable. Every Party has communicated and discussed the issues as below with each other:

Green Procurement

- 1.Introduction from China: Introduced the development of cooperation between state and local government and the recent schedule of promoting the government green procurement.
- 2.Introduction from Japan: Presented the information format and the contents of products and the operational procedure of Green Purchase Network (GPN) products database as well as the relevant information about the construction of the International Environmental Legal and Statute Database.
- 3.Introduction from Korea: Introduced the positive effect of the legislation for green procurement and main role of KOECO for promoting green procurement in each sector.

After the discussion, all parties agreed that the green exposition should be promoted which could set out the environmental labelling product to more people, introduce the green consumption and promote the green procurement.

Eco-mark

- 1. Introduction from Korea: Compared the product scope and the life cycle of Personal Computers and Household Plastic Products with other two counties, putting forward the framework of common criteria.
- 2. Introduction from China: Introduced the Chinese Environment Label criteria of Water-based Paints and its background. After comparing the water paint criteria with the other two county, putting forward the framework of common criteria of Water-based Paints.
- 3. Introduction from Japan: Introduced the overview of environmental labelling and the background of stationery (pen).

After the discussion, all parties agreed that the common criteria could promote the cooperation and the mutual certification, which could give a positive effect to the development of economy and commerce for all the three countries. All parties agreed to strengthen the work of building the common criteria by using the step-by-step method. After discussion, all parties decided to discuss the phase-aim on the third workshop meeting for environmental labelling in Seoul, Korea, October, 2006. And hoping to have a notable result.

Communion of environmental technology

- 1. Introduction from Japan: Introduced the development, the application condition as well as the specific status in enterprises of the denitrification technologies.
- 2. Introduction from Korea: From relevant industry, introduced Korean denitrification technology.
- 3. Introduction from China: Introduced the condition of nitrogen oxides in China, the policy trends in denitrification measures and the development of denitrification technology in China.

After the discussion, all parties agreed that the communication and cooperation in technology against pollution should be strengthened.

SMEs

- 1. Introduction from Japan: Particularly introduced the operation condition of eco-action21 system in Japan, as well as its effect for the promotion of SMEs management. Made some examples to explain the significance and advantages created by applying SMEs and environmental disclosure
- 2. Introduction from Korea: Introduced the current adoption status of Environmental Management Systems including "Environmental friendly companies (EFC) Designation System" operated by Korean Ministry of Environment and ISO 14001 Certification as well. In addition, the presentation also covered government efforts on improvement of EDDS in the context of increasing SMEs participation.
- 3. Introduction from China: Introducted the recent condition of environment pollution, remain problems of SMEs in China and the trends in future requirements for SMEs regarding environmental measures and policies

After the discussion, all parties agreed that the communication for SMEs management should be strengthened, especially in the EFC and ECO-action21 areas. It would be better that all parties should make a further discussion for the details of cooperation in the next workgroup meeting.