

THE 11th TRIPARTITE ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY

Meeting Date: November 9 - 10, 2011

Meeting Venue: The Westin Nagoya Castle, Nagoya, Japan

Resolutions

The three countries reached a common understanding that giving incentives to companies through green procurement and government green procurement are effective means to build a sustainable society through greening of the market. In particular, disclosing items subjected to government green procurement through government green procurement database gives direct incentives to the manufacturers and gives a ripple effect to the private sector. The three countries agreed to continue to discuss the optimal means to achieve greening of the market.

On the topic of environmental management, Japan and Korea made presentations and reached a common understanding that building a virtuous cycle of information disclosure, appropriate evaluation, and environmental finance are important in spreading environmental management to the business sector, and also to achieve both environment and management objectives. China also agreed that information disclosure is very important and valuable to environmental management.

In regards to ecolabeling, there was consensus on the importance of enhancing the items under the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) framework and encouragement of utilization of ecolabels by companies. The three countries agreed to consider TV as the next item to be discussed under the MRA framework following DVD equipment. Each country will make a final confirmation and enter into a new process.

As for environmental industry and environmental technology communication, Japan made a presentation on the current situation of the environmental technology verification (ETV) program. Korea made a presentation on green industries and green markets. Consensus was reached on the necessity to continue to exchange information in this field in the years to come.

With regard to future tripartite cooperation, Japan made a proposal to make an analysis of the needs, specify important discussion items, and set goals for each session. Korea made a proposal to facilitate business involvement into this meeting in addition to related institutions. The significance of the meeting will be thus further enhanced by incorporating diverse stakeholders.

The chairperson concluded that this year marks the 11th RTM and we have achieved a significant result. The three countries have put forward world leading concepts: China proposed ecological civilization, Korea proposed green growth, and Japan proposed green innovation. The three countries have achieved significant results in the fields of green purchasing, environmental management, and green technology. In particular, the three countries established common criteria for ecolabeling. As to how the three countries will proceed from here, China mentioned that they would like to take the proposals by Japan and Korea back home, deliberate them, and reflect the proposals in the next RTM as the host country.