

Results of the 3rd Japan-Mongolia Environment Policy Dialogue

June 6, 2008

Environmental Cooperation Office,
Global Environment Bureau

TEL: +81-3-5521-8248

Director: Teruyoshi Hayamizu (Mr.)

Deputy Director: Masako Ogawa (Ms.)

Section Chief: Shihoko Kato (Ms.)

The Ministry of the Environment held the 3rd Japan-Mongolia Environment Policy Dialogue on Thursday, June 5, 2008 to exchange information concerning the environment in Japan and Mongolia and to examine directions for environmental cooperation between the two countries.

1. Objective

To exchange views frankly at the Director level on environmental policy and challenges in Japan and Mongolia and share views on future cooperation between the two countries, based on the 2nd Japan-Mongolia Environmental Policy Dialogue.

2. Overview of the Policy Dialogue

Date: Thursday, June 5, 2008, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Venue: Room No. 1, Mita Conference Hall, Tokyo, Japan

Main Participants:

Japan

Mr. Toshiro Kojima, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs

Mr. Hideki Minamikawa, General Director of the Global Environment Bureau

Mongolia

Mr. Ganbat Chimeddagva, Deputy Director of Environment and Nature Resources
Department

Mr. Baatarnyam Nergui, Deputy Director of State Administration and Management
Department

Observer

Mr. Hiroto Mitsugi, Director of Global Environment Department, JICA

3. Summary

(1) Current Status of Cooperation Projects

Japan: Explained the Ogii Nuur ecosystem conservation project and project for waste management and air pollution mitigation in Ulan Bator; reconfirmed issues regarding these projects and the status of cooperation.

Mongolia: Thanked Japan for the progress in each of these projects; explained the great need for assessing the amount of emissions of air polluting substances and investigating their sources and for capacity building of air monitoring technicians.

The two sides agreed to continue discussions on the possibility of addressing these needs within the projects to be started this year.

(2) Request for Cooperation from Mongolia

Mongolia: Explained the necessity of Japanese cooperation towards capacity building for the Ministry of Nature and Environment, including in the area of management of contaminated materials and protected areas, as some areas are contaminated by wastewater from mines.

Japan: Requested from Mongolia a report detailing the issue of contamination from mine wastewater; introduced various human resource development courses conducted by JICA and the National Institute for Minamata Disease.

(3) Efforts to Mitigate Climate Change

Japan: Introduced the "Cool Earth Promotion Programme;" the "Cool Earth Partnership," a new financial mechanism to support developing countries; and the CDM, and requested that Mongolia engage in active efforts.

Mongolia: Expressed great appreciation for Japan's efforts and stated its recognition that Mongolia is vulnerable to climate change and needs to undertake measures to address its impacts. Mongolia then introduced its efforts against climate change since the formulation of its National Plan in 2000 and highlighted survey results on the effects of climate change on natural resources.

(4) Cooperation on Ecotourism

Japan: Explained Japanese domestic efforts, including the Act on the Promotion of Ecotourism; overviewed Japanese cooperation after this fiscal year (assessment of the current situation in Mongolia, model projects, and the establishment of a system to promote ecotourism).

Mongolia: Introduced examples of ecotourism utilizing natural resources and expressed the will to establish a relevant legal framework.

Both countries agreed to hold discussions and advance cooperation for enhancing

ecotourism.

(5) Other Challenges

Japan explained various countermeasures against dust and sand storms, the snow leopard preservation project, and environment management policies. After that, with regard to environment management policies, the two countries discussed the utilization of economic methods and the concept of setting a baseline.