

The Ninth Japan-Korea Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation

February 28, 2006

The Ninth Japan-Korea Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation was held on February 28, 2006 in Tokyo, Japan. This meeting is held based on “Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in the field of Environmental Protection” signed in June, 1993. The last meeting was held on July 23, 2003 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The Japanese delegation, headed by Mr. Hiroshi Fukada, Director Deputy General, Global Issues Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, consisted of officials from relevant ministries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Environment. The Korean delegation, headed by Mr. Shin Boo-nam, Deputy Director General for Environment, International Economy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, consisted of officials from relevant ministries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.

Presentations on environmental policies of each government were given at the meeting, the participants frankly exchanged views on regional environmental issues in Northeast Asia and global environmental issues, and confirmed that they strengthen cooperation in the field of the environment.

Specifically, they discussed possible measures against marine litter on the coast of the Sea of Japan. The Japanese side introduced their policy developments on asbestos in Japan. In view of the agreement reached at the summit meeting in December 2004, both sides confirmed the need to promote the preparation for a treaty between the two governments for the protection of migratory birds.