

Statement of Cooperation by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, UK and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan regarding Exchange of Information on Calculating Carbon Footprints and Carbon Offsetting

The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), UK and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ):

Emphasizing that carbon offsetting is not a substitute for reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases but can enable individuals, businesses and the Governments to mitigate remaining emissions from essential activities after all steps have been taken to avoid and reduce them.

Shared the view that:

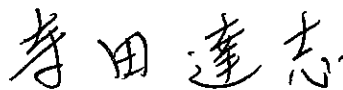
1. Defra and MOEJ will investigate the potential for cooperation and the exchange of best practice in this field;
2. Components of this cooperation could include:
 - a) exchanging information on carbon offsetting policy;
 - b) collaborating on raising public awareness of the role of carbon footprint calculation and carbon offsetting as part of a wider carbon mitigation hierarchy;
3. Information to be exchanged in the context of 2a) could include:
 - a) methodologies for calculating carbon footprints;
 - b) procedures and requirements surrounding the proposed quality assurance scheme for carbon offsetting;
 - c) information on the carbon offsetting market in both countries;
4. MOEJ will designate the Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan as an associating organization in promoting this cooperation.

Signed in September, 2008.



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