

## **International Expert Meeting on Material Flow Accounts and Resource Productivity, Tokyo, 25-26 November, 2003**

### **Background**

- At the World Summit on Sustainable Development last year in Johannesburg, we agreed on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that called for the development of "a 10-year framework of programmes to accelerate the shift towards sustainable production and consumption." The sustainability of consumption and production patterns closely relates to the efficiency of our way of using resources and materials in socio-economies. And we need a method and indicators based on it to measure our material use and its efficiency.
- In that regard, Japan proposed launching an international joint research project on Material Flow Accounts (MFA) and Resource Productivity (RP) at the G8 environment ministers' meeting in Paris, April 2003. The ministers, recognizing that it was essential to improve resource productivity, took note with interest Japan's proposal. Also in Evian Summit, G8 leaders announced that they would enhance their understanding of resource material flows and continue work on resources productivity indices, notably in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in the G8 Action Plan on science and technology for sustainable development.
- In line with the above, Ministry of the Environment (MOE) of Japan will organize an International Expert Meeting on MFA and RP, in Tokyo from 25 to 26 November, 2003.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Review international, regional, and national activities on MFA and RP
- Identify international focal points and topics of joint research
- Set forth a proposal for future work

### **Agenda**

Date & Venue: 25-26 November 2003 at Mita-Kaigisho (conference hall) in Tokyo

#### 1st day (25 November)

Review international, regional, national, and local activities on MFA and RP by presentations from experts, delegates from G8, OECD and non-OECD countries, international organizations, local organization and business sector.

#### 2nd day (26 November)

Identify international focal points and joint research topics based on the 1st day's presentations, and discuss future work (research programme)

*Experts concerned with MFA and RP from government agencies, international organizations and academia will participate in the meeting.*

*Participants should be nominated by their governments/organizations.*

Agenda

**Tuesday, 25 November**

Session I Opening and Keynotes (10:00-12:00)

Chair: Mr. Masao Nii (Ministry of the Environment, Japan)

Introductory Statements	Mr. Shigeru Sumitani (Vice Minister of the Environment, Japan)
Japan's Basic Plan for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society	Mr. Hideki Minamikawa (Ministry of the Environment, Japan)
Accounting for Economy-wide Material Flows and Resource Productivity	Dr. Stefan Bringezu (European Environment Agency/ Wuppertal Institute, Germany)
Minding Our Materials: A Bold Vision And A Modest Proposal	Mr. Frederick W. Allen (Environment Protection Agency, United States)

Agenda (continue)

Session II Review of Related Activities (13:30-18:00)

Chair: Dr. Yuichi Moriguchi (National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan)

Session II-1 Nation-wide MFA and RP in G8 and OECD countries (13:30-15:10)

Material and Energy Flow Accounts -Statistics Canada's Approach	Mr. Martin Lemire (Statistics Canada, Canada)
Developments in Italy's Official Statistics and Policy Uses of Material Flow Accounting	Dr. Aldo Femia (National Institute of Statistics, Italy)
Environmental Information and Indicators -Work and experience so far-	Ms. Myriam Linster (OECD Environment Directorate)
[Short Presentation] Activities Relevant to MFA in Australia	Mrs. Jenny Boshier (Department of the Environment and Heritage, Australia)
[Short Presentation] MFA and Policy Assessment: Ongoing Work in France and Lessons Learned	Mr. Xavier Delache (Ministry for Ecology and Sustainable Development, France)
[Short Presentation] Activities on Environmental Accounting in Korea	Dr. Jong-Ho Kim (Korea Environment Institute, Korea)
[Short Presentation] Monitoring Sustainable Consumption and Production	Mr. John Murton (British Embassy of Japan, United Kingdom)
[Written Contribution] Material Flow Accounting -the Swedish Experience 2003	Dr. Viveka Palm and Dr. Annica Carlsson (Statistics Sweden, Sweden)

Session II-2 Other related activities (15:40-18:00)

Regional Roles in a Global Network of Material Flows: The Cases from Latin America and South East Asia	Prof. Marina Fischer-Kowalski (University of Vienna, Austria)
Promoting Circular Economy Development in China: Strategies and MFA and Resource Productivity Issues	Ms. Guomei Zhou (State Environmental Protection Administration, China)
Building a Recycled-oriented Society and Resource Productivity	Dr. Steve Halls (International Environment Technology Centre, UNEP)
The Aichi Plan for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society and Material Flow in the Prefecture	Mr. Takashi Inagaki (Aichi Prefecture, Japan)
Toyota's Environmental Efforts toward Zero-emission Society	Mr. Takamori Kawaguchi (Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan)
Life Cycle Approaches to Sustainable Consumption and Production	Dr. Atsushi Inaba (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Japan)
Some Economic Aspects of Material Flow Accounts/Accounting	Prof. Kazuhiro Ueta (Kyoto University, Japan)

Agenda (continue)

**Wednesday, 26 November**

**Session III Identification of Joint Research Topics (9:30-15:00)**

Chair: Dr. Yuichi Moriguchi (National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan)

Setting Quantitative Targets for Indicators Based on MFA -Japan's Experience-	Prof. Yu Matsuno (Meiji University, Japan)
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**Session III-1 Application and implication of MFA and RP (10:00-12:00)**

Discuss the following points (tentative): # What are we going to do by measuring the absolute level and/or relative efficiency of material production/use at national level? # Which indicator is more adequate for measuring the level or efficiency of material production/use? # What are the crucial issues associated with international material flows and their globalization? # How do we usefully apply MFA results to individual resource and environmental management policies at various levels?	
[Short Presentation for Discussion] European Union's Thematic Strategy on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	Mr. Pawel Kazmierczyk (European Environment Agency)
[Short Presentation for Discussion] Material Flow Accounting Approaching the Target	Dr. Iddo Wernick (World Resources Institute)

**Session III-2 Technical issues in MFA and RP (13:30-15:00)**

Discuss the following points (tentative): # Categorization of MFA # Standardization of bulk MFA methodology at national level (excluding hidden flows) # Other research topics on bulk MFA methodology at national level # Standardization of MFA indicators # Physical input output table at national level # Institution for managing MFA activities # Methodology for setting target related to material flows	
[Short Presentations for Discussion] Reasons and methods to construct a Physical Input Output Table (PIOT)	Dr. Aldo Femia

**Session IV Discussion on Next Steps (15:30-17:00)**

Chair: Dr. Yuichi Moriguchi (National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan)