



XXX Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting

New Delhi 30 April to 11 May 2007



IP 129

Agenda Item: CEP 4

Presented by: Japan

Original: English

Annual Report Pursuant to the Article 17 of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty

1. Notification pursuant to Article 13(1),(2) of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty

A law that ensures implementation of the Protocol, the Law relating to Protection of the Environment in Antarctica (Antarctic Environment Law), was promulgated in the gazette on 28th of May 1997.

The Cabinet Ordinance and Ministerial Ordinance for enforcing the Antarctic Environment Law were promulgated in the gazettes in July and September 1997 respectively.

The Government of Japan ratified the Protocol on 15th of December 1997 and the Antarctic Environment Law was implemented on 14th of January 1998, the same day when the Protocol itself entered into force.

The website showing the text of the Antarctic Environment Law is available as below;

<<http://www.env.go.jp/en/lar/antarctica/index.html>>

The government of Japan distributes pamphlets and established website in order to inform citizens of natural features, history of Japanese Antarctic Research and legal procedures required for visiting Antarctica, etc.

The website is available as below;

< http://www.env.go.jp/earth/nankyoku/kankyohogo_en/index.html >

2. Contingency plans established in accordance with Article 15 of the Protocol

Syowa Station Oil Spill Contingency Plan was finalised in 1996 in accordance with the COMNAP guidelines. The plan (available in Japanese only) is available as follows;

Environment Planning Unit, Planning Section, Office of Polar Expeditions, National Institute of Polar Research(NIPR)

1-9-10 Kaga, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 173-8515, Japan

tel : +81-3-3962-0548

3. Other notifications and information called for pursuant to the Protocol

See the Annex.

3-1. Report pursuant to Annex I, Article 6 (1) of the Protocol

3-1-1. Procedures for the Environmental Impact Assessments of proposed activities in Antarctica (the Annex I, Article 6 (1a) of the Protocol)

No person shall engage in any activity in Antarctica other than Antarctic Activities that has been certified by the Minister of the Environment as satisfying the conditions to protect the Environment in Antarctica in accordance with Annex I of the Environmental Protocol (so called the Certification System). This, however, does not apply to Specified Activities such as the sailing of ships or flying of aircraft, etc.

The summary of the Procedures of the Certification System:

http://www.env.go.jp/earth/nankyoku/kankyohogo_en/houmon_en/index.html

Further information can be obtained at the following address:

Antarctic Section, Global Environment Issues Division, Global Environment Bureau
Ministry of the Environment
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8975 Japan
tel : +81-3-3581-3351(ex: 6747) / E-mail: antarctic@env.go.jp

3-1-2. List of Initial Environmental Evaluations developed in accordance with Article 2 and decisions taken (Annex I, Article 6 (1b) of the Protocol and also ATCM Resolution 6 (1995))

During the 2006/2007 season, some Initial Environmental Evaluations (IEE) were prepared in accordance with Annex I, Article 2 of the Protocol.

The Annual list of IEE is provided in the following table.

The title of the IEE	Location	Organization	Date certificated	Decision under domestic law
IEE on the extension of the ground line of the Ionospheric Observation Building at Syowa station	Syowa Station (69° 00' S, 39° 35' E)	The Director General of Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)	25th Oct. 2006	All the proposed activities were certified by Minister of the Environment as having no more than a minor or transitory impact.
IEE on the civil engineering and construction works at Syowa station				

3-1-3. Significant information obtained, and any action taken in consequence thereof, from procedures put in place in accordance with, Annex I, Articles 2(2) and 5 of the Protocol (Annex I, Article 6 (1c))

During the 2006/2007 season, no significant information was obtained from procedures put in place in accordance with the provisions of Annex I of the Protocol.

3-1-4. Information referred to in Article 3 (6) on Comprehensive Environmental Evaluations (Annex I, Article 6 (1d))

During the 2006/2007 season, no activity that needs draft or final CEEs was planned for Japanese activities in Antarctica.

3-2. Report pursuant to Annex II, Article 6 of the Environmental Protocol

3-2-1. Steps taken pursuant to Annex II, Article 6(1) of the Protocol

The Ministry of the Environment obtains the information regarding the number and amount of the Antarctic fauna and flora (Annex II, Article 6(1) of the Protocol) through the Certification System mentioned in the section 3-3-1.

3-2-2. Number and nature of permits issued under Annex II of the Protocol during the 2006/2007 season (Annex II, Article 6 (2) of the Protocol)

The following permits were issued under Annex II of the Protocol during the 2006/2007 season.

#	Specie	Contents	Location	Number/Amount permitted	Supervisor	Date of certification issued	Number/Amount actually taken
1	Sediments, mosses, algae and bacteria	Sampling sediments and mosses for research on structure of the ecosystem of lakes on the Antarctica	Skarvsnes (69 ° 28 S, 39 ° 40 E), Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E), Skallen (69 ° 40 S, 39 ° 25 E), Hundvagshetta (69 ° 53 S, 39 ° 19 E), Amunden Bay	Sediments: 50kg (2kg within ASPA) Mosses, algae and bacteria: 30kg	The Director General of Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)	2006 11/1	Sediments: 50kg (2kg within ASPA) Mosses, algae and bacteria: 30kg
2	mosses, algae	Sampling mosses and algae for monitoring changes in vegetation	East Ongul Island (69 ° 01' S, 39 ° 36'E), Ongulkaruben Island (69 ° 01 S, 39 ° 34 E), Skarvsnes (69 ° 28 S, 39 ° 40 E), Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E)	Mosses, algae: 5kg (5kg within ASPA)			Mosses, algae: 5kg (5kg within ASPA)
3	Mosses, algae	Sampling Mosses and algae for research on ecosystem structure	Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 44 E),	Mosses, algae: 5kg (5kg within ASPA)			none
4	Algae	Sampling algae for research on structure of terrestrial ecosystem	King George Islands (62 ° 13' S, 58 ° 47' E)	algae: 5kg			Algae: 0.4kg
5	penguins	Attaching data loggers and tags (catch and release)	King George Islands (62 ° 13' S, 58 ° 47' E)	Adelie Penguin and Gentoo Penguin, 60adults and 40chicks respectively			Adelie Penguin: 60adults and 40chicks Gentoo Penguin: 40adults and 20chicks

6	Algae	Sampling algae around the Syowa Station for the purpose of preparing the monitoring guideline	Syowa Station (69 ° 05 S, 39 ° 34 E)	Algae 3kg			Algae: 1kg
7	Penguins	Attaching data loggers and tags (catch and release)	King George Islands(62 ° 13' S, 58 ° 47' E)	Adelie Penguin and Gentoo Penguin, 20 adults respectively	Dr. Akinori Takahashi (Assistant Professor at the National Institute of Polar Research)	2006 11/27	Adelie Penguin: 20adults Gentoo Penguin:10 adults

3-3. Report pursuant to Annex III, Article 9 of the Environmental Protocol

3-3-1. Waste Management Plans Prepared in Accordance with Annex III, Article 8(2) of the Protocol (Annex III, Article 9 (1) of the Protocol)

(1) Syowa Station

1. After the Protocol was adopted in 1991 at Madrid, The Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE) introduced the Cord of Conduct about Waste Management(which is referred in the Directory of Syowa Station) to implement necessary operating procedures such as segregation, disposal and management of wastes.

According to the Cord of Conduct, some combustible wastes are incinerated and sewage and grey water are treated by the biological treatment plant. In addition, ash , sludgeand other wastes are brought back to Japan.

2. Larger wastes such as snow vehicles, trucks and building materials stored at Syowa Station are also brought back to Japan every year according to the Clean-up Operation Plan which is completely revised in 2004/5 season.

3. The Comprehensive Waste Management Plan fully meets the requirement in pursuant to AnnexIII,Article 8 (2) ,(a)(b)(c) and (d)of the Protocol is in preparation.

(2) Dome Fuji

The Waste Management plan which fully meets the requirement in pursuant to AnnexIII,Article 8 (2) ,(a)(b)(c)(d) for Dome Fuji is in preparation. Wastes produced from the present activities in Dome Fuji are treated according to Antarctic Environment Law.

3-3-2. Report on implementation of waste management plan (Annex III, Article 9 (1) of the Protocol)

The Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition treated the wastes as the appendix shows during 2006/2007 season, in accordance with the waste disposal classification system in pursuant to Annex III, Article 8(1) of the Protocol.

APPENDIX List of wastes from Antarctica

Lubricants	Removed and brought back to Japan	14,145
Group 3 - Combustible wastes		kg
Paper products and wooden fragments	Incinerated	2,780
Corrugated carton and books	Removed and brought back to Japan	3,720
Untreated wood	Removed and brought back to Japan	21,460
Food scraps	Carbonized & brought back to Japan	4,300
Polyurethane & polystyrene	Removed and brought back to Japan	2,590
Rubber	Removed and brought back to Japan	2,310
Bedding, cloth	Removed and brought back to Japan	240
Medical waste	Removed and brought back to Japan	410
Group 4 - Other solid wastes		kg
Glass	Removed and brought back to Japan	710
Metal cans	Removed and brought back to Japan	1,440
Aluminium cans	Removed and brought back to Japan	1,520
Building waste	Removed and brought back to Japan	1,410
Vehicles	Removed and brought back to Japan	37,880
Batteries	Removed and brought back to Japan	1,220
Non - liquid chemicals	Removed and brought back to Japan	550
Incinerator ash	Removed and brought back to Japan	1,770
Other solid wastes	Removed and brought back to Japan	101,430
Unopened waste food	Removed and brought back to Japan	1,790
Waste fluorescent light bulbs	Removed and brought back to Japan	40

3-3-3. *Inventory of Past Activities in accordance with Annex III, Article 8 (3) of the Environmental Protocol (Annex III, Article 9 (1) of the Protocol)*

Station Name	Type of Activity	Period of Occupation	Average level of	Remnants & Date last visited	Disposal plans & dates
Mizuho (70 ° 42 S, 44 ° 20 E)	Scientific observation	From July 1970 to present	Now temporarily closed	January 2006	None planned
Asuka (71 ° 32 S, 24 ° 08 E)	Scientific observation	From January 1985 to present	Now temporarily closed	December 2005	None planned

3-4. Report pursuant to Annex V, Article 10 of the Protocol

3-4-1. *Number and nature of permits issued under Annex V of the Protocol during the 2006/2007 season (Annex V, Article 10 (2) of the Protocol)*

The following permits were issued under Annex V of the Protocol during the 2006/2007 season.

ASP A No. and Location	Purpose	Number of the person to whom the Ministry of the Environment issued the	Period Permitted	Date Permit Issued	Number of persons who actually entered into	Period actually entered
ASP A No.141 Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E)	Sampling sediments and mosses for research on structure of the ecosystem of lakes on the Antarctica	4	50 days between 20th Dec. 2006 to 15th Feb. 2007	2006 11/1	4	2007 2/3-4
ASP A No.141 Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E)	Sampling mosses and algae for monitoring changes in vegetation	4	7 days between 20th Dec. 2005 and 15th Feb. 2007.	2006 11/1	4	2007 2/3-4
ASP A No.141 Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E)	Sampling Mosses and algae for research on ecosystem structure	4	Between beginning of Jan. 2007 and beginning of Feb. 2007.	2006 11/1	4	2007 2/3-4
ASP A No.141 Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E)	Assist the other activities in ASP A141	4	Between middle of Dec.2006 and middle of Mar. 2007.	2006 11/1	0	None
ASP A No.141 Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 43 E)	Assist the other activities in ASP A142	4	Between middle of Dec.2006 and middle of Mar. 2007.	2006 11/1	0	None

3-4-3. Measures taken to implement the provisions of Annex V (Annex V, Article 10 (4) of the Protocol)

The government of Japan ensures the implementation of the regulations in Annex V, relevant to the ASPA, HSM, and the management plan of ASPA, through enactment of Antarctic Environment Law.

Visitors permitted to enter ASPA during the 2006/2007 season are obliged to submit a visit report.

The Ministry of the Environment amended a part of the Ministerial Ordinance of the Antarctic Environment Law to enforce Measures adopted in ATCM29.