

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN
AND
THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
IN THE FIELDS OF ENVIRONMENT

The Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Finland (hereinafter referred to collectively as “the Participants” and individually as a “Participant”):

BEING AWARE of the regional and global nature of the environmental problems, the need to find cost-effective and long-term solutions in addressing these issues through international cooperation and the importance of coordinating joint activities of the Participants;

RECOGNIZING that the Participants desire to strengthen their cooperation in the fields of environment and to encourage cooperation between business communities, research and academic institutions and other relevant organisations;

CONVINCED that cooperation between the Participants in the fields of environment is of mutual benefit for promoting sustainable development;

Have come to the following recognition:

PARAGRAPH 1

The Participants intend to strengthen and develop their cooperation in the fields of environment on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and with due respect to promotion of sustainable development.

PARAGRAPH 2

The Participants identified the following agenda as areas of cooperation:

1. Circular economy;
2. Waste management and waste-to-energy technologies;
3. Climate change;
4. Air and water pollution prevention and remediation of contaminated soils;
5. Protection of marine environment;
6. Environmental monitoring and data management;
7. Technologies, solutions and innovations for implementation, localization and further development;
8. Synergies between initiatives, programs and projects of the Participants;
9. Areas and challenges that need scientific research; and
10. Other areas as mutually accepted.

PARAGRAPH 3

Cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as this "MOC") may be conducted in the following forms:

1. Policy Dialogue;
2. Jointly organizing seminars, workshops and meetings attended by government officials, business communities, researchers and scientists and others concerned;
3. Exchanging and sharing experiences, information and documentation;
4. Identifying opportunities for trilateral cooperation with third parties;
5. Other forms of cooperation as mutually accepted.

PARAGRAPH 4

1. To implement this MOC, the Participants encourage relevant agencies, business communities as well as research and academic institutions on both Participants to establish and develop cooperation with each other in the fields of environment.
2. Neither Participant will be responsible for any commitments between the above mentioned organizations.

PARAGRAPH 5

General and specific cooperative activities may be implemented as mutually accepted and they will be subject to the availability of appropriate funds and other resources and to the laws and legal provisions of each country.

PARAGRAPH 6

This MOC does not create any legal or financial rights or obligations. Nothing in this MOC will affect the obligations of the Participants deriving from international law.

PARAGRAPH 7

1. The cooperation under this MOC will come into operation on the day of the signing of this MOC and will be in operation for a five-year period.
2. It will be renewed for a successive period of five years, unless either Participant notifies the other Participant in writing of its intention to terminate the cooperation under this MOC by at least thirty days prior to the termination or expiration of the original term.
3. The matters of this MOC or any of its texts may be modified by the Participants in writing.

Signed in duplicate at Yokohama on 22 October 2018 in English language.

For the Ministry of the Environment
of Japan

For the Ministry of the Environment
of the Republic of Finland

Yoshiaki Harada
Minister of the Environment

Kimmo Tiilikainen
Minister of the Environment, Energy
and Housing