

**Preliminary Responses Submitted by the Government of Japan  
on the Scope of the Sinks Workshop to be held  
between SBSTA12 and COP6**

The Government of Japan (GOJ) submitted to the SBSTA information related to Article 3.3 of the Kyoto Protocol on August 26, 1998, information related to Article 3.4 on October 26, 1998, and information about policy and procedural issues associated with Article 3.3 and 3.4 on March 12, 1999. In addition, on August 25, 1999, the GOJ submitted information about the need for country-specific data and information and its relationship to a decision-making framework, and the issues on document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5 on Sinks. It is of prime importance that these submissions be duly reviewed and properly addressed at SBSTA and IPCC discussions.

In dealing with the issue of land-use, land-use change and forestry, the GOJ believes it is important to take constructive action to reach a fair international agreement on sink issues which contributes to the prevention of global warming. This should be achieved by further collaboration between the SBSTA and the IPCC.

Hereinafter, the GOJ present its view on the workshop to be held between SBSTA12 and COP6, in response to the conclusion from the SBSTA10 and COP5 session, which stated that, "the purpose of the workshop would be to analyze the IPCC special report on land-use, land-use change and forestry in the context of the requirement of the Kyoto Protocol. The SBSTA invited Parties to provide the secretariat with guidance by 1 February 2000 on the scope of the workshop." In addition, the GOJ believes the workshop should also play an important role to promote the decision making process for reaching an agreement on sink issues at COP6. Though workshops on sinks have been held in the past, this will be the first one to discuss policy related issues. To achieve the purpose of the workshop, it is important that the role of the prior events should also be considered. In particular, the IPCC Special Side Event to be held in SBSTA12 should be organized in a careful manner, in order that it provide an in-depth briefing for all Parties on findings of the IPCC Special Report on Land-use, Land-use Change and Forestry (SRLULUCF). The SBSTA12 Special Side Event should play mainly a role of a briefing session on IPCC SRLULUCF, whereas the Workshop should function as a bridge between scientific discussions to a policy-making process, and it is expected that these two events would contribute to the sinks' negotiation towards COP6 in a coordinated manner.

## 1. Scope of the workshop

The workshop should aim at not only analysis of IPCC SRLULUCF with broad participation by Parties particularly developing country Parties, but also sharing each Party's views on sink issues, taking into account findings of the IPCC SRLULUCF. To meet this end, each Party should actively present their views on sink issues and contribute constructively to the discussions. It is important that each view is respected and that despite differences the Parties' reach mutual understanding on their respective views on sink issues. It should be noted that the workshop discussions' be based on the IPCC SRLULUCF and past submissions to SBSTA by the Parties.

It is recommended that country presentations include issues related to the following items:

- Article 3.3
- Article 3.4
- Project activities
- Accounting

## 2. Scheduling of the workshop

The GOJ believe the workshop should be held in July 2000 so as to secure sufficient time to make timely inputs into sinks' discussions at SBSTA13. Regarding the duration, 45 days should be allotted so as to allow sufficient time for country presentations and full discussion based on the IPCC SRLULUCF.