

**STATEMENT OF COOPERATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION AND EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN

AND

**THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE
ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS**

We, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (hereafter referred to as “both sides”), hereby express our common recognition to enhance cooperation on education for sustainable development matters:

- Recognising the common challenge both countries face in promoting more sustainable practices across all sectors of our societies to achieve better environmental outcomes;
- Recognising also that sustainable development and the challenge of climate change are global issues which require actions on the part of all countries and cooperation between similarly-minded countries;
- Acknowledging the leadership roles both countries are seeking to take in relation to education for sustainable development particularly in the Asia Pacific region;
- Acknowledging also the efforts that both countries make in relation to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-14, noting the Japanese Government’s instigation of the Resolution leading to the declaration of the Decade; and
- Further recognising that these common interests offer the opportunity to gain from mutual cooperation.

We decide to build on and benefit from the already strong relationship between both sides by cooperating in the following areas:

1. Sharing experiences – Both sides will communicate on a regular basis to share information on their experiences related to education for sustainable development initiatives;
2. Sharing resources – Both sides will, where appropriate, make available to each other education for sustainable development resource materials they may have developed, including the outcomes of research.
3. Identifying areas where more substantive cooperation might be considered – Both sides will consider areas where joint activities might be implemented including exchange activities in areas of mutual interest in environmental

education and cooperative coordination with authorities of other countries where one or the other is, or both are taking a leadership role.

We intend to cooperate in those areas which are specifically listed in the Annex, and in other areas as appropriate, consistent with our respective domestic procedures and resources existing from time to time. With the intention of both sides, the Annex may be modified from time to time to take account of new initiatives being taken by either side or new areas of cooperation identified by both sides.

The cooperation under this Statement will be carried out in accordance with their respective national laws and regulations and within the limits of their respective annual budgetary appropriations.

The cooperation under this Statement is to commence upon the signature of both sides and will continue for a period of three years. It may be extended or modified at any time with the written consent of both sides. Additionally, either side may discontinue its participation by providing 30 days prior written notice to the other side.

SIGNED in Tokyo on this 2nd day of December 2008.

For the Ministry of the Environment
of Japan

For the Australian Government
Department of the Environment, Water,
Heritage and the Arts

Mr. Hikaru Kobayashi
Director-General,
Environmental Policy Bureau

Dr. Diana Wright
First Assistant Secretary,
Environment Quality Division