

Summary of the Chair

5th Round Table Meeting 14 September 2005 in Tokyo, JAPAN

Based on the discussion at the 5th Round Table Meeting (RTM), delegates from 3 countries agreed on the following action plans to implement discussions.

I Recommendations

1) Green Procurement

Referring to the proposal to establish tripartite information channel and to hold green procurement seminars, it is necessary to take following actions.

- Contact points for cooperation will be established and actively utilized.
- Seminars for Green Procurement would be good occasions for information sharing among 3 countries. The 3 countries will cooperate to coordinate timing and venue and will try to utilize the IGPN's network.

2) Environmental Management for Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs)

To promote environmental management for SMEs in 3 countries, it is necessary to take following actions.

- It is necessary to conduct overall studies on policies to promote EMS of SMEs. The study would examine experiences under various present schemes. It is also important to include various sectors and share information in such studies.
- IGES of Japan will take a lead to facilitate the study with supports from the 3 countries. Japan will provide more information and exchange views with relevant organizations. IGES is requested to report the progress at the next RTM.

3) Eco labeling

Referring to the proposal to harmonize criteria for eco labeling, and to hold consultations for companies and expositions for consumers, it is necessary to take following actions.

- Korean Eco-Products Institute (KOECO) of Korea will take a lead with support from relevant organizations of the other countries. China Environmental United Certification Center and Japan Environment Association are contact points.

- It is recommended that 2 or 3 categories would be selected as a first step for harmonization. The on-going process would be taken into account in the selecting initial set of category for harmonization.
- Participants agreed that discussion on arrangement is necessary for consultation and exposition to promote eco labeling. KOECO also take a lead on this issue.

II Processes towards the 6th RTM

- China will host the 6th RTM and will organize working group meetings, where the issues for the next RTM will be discussed and recommended.

- It is necessary to agree on the process to enhance cooperation. For this purpose, the following “issue-coordinating countries” will take the lead to deepen discussion according to the agreement in the 5th RTM.

Green Procurement	China
Environmental Management for SMEs	Japan
Eco-labeling	Korea

- Each issue-coordinating country should communicate relevant information with each other through e-mail and meeting.

- Meetings to discuss specific issues can be held by issue coordinating countries, as necessary.

- The Host Country of the 5th RTM (Japan) will prepare a list of contact points for each issue, and distribute it to the relevant contacts.