

Preparatory Meeting for the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia

Tokyo, Japan, 29-30 June 2009

Meeting Record

- 1. Preparatory Meeting for the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia** was organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan, on 29-30 June 2009 in Tokyo, Japan, with participants /representatives from 10 Asian countries (Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam), International Organizations and Aid Agencies (Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies(IGES), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)) and experts in the area of 3R/waste management (*Attachment 1*).
2. The Meeting was chaired by Dr. Ryutaro Yatsu, Director General of Waste Management and Recycling Department, Ministry of the Environment of Japan(MOEJ) with the support of the co-chair Mr. Hiroki Hashizume (MOEJ) and Mr. Kazunobu Onogawa (UNCRD), and the working group chairs Mr. CRC Mohanty (UNCRD) and Dr. Magnus Bengtsson (IGES).
3. The objectives of the Meeting were to: (a) identify and agree on the priorities in the area of 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)/Waste Management in Asia, to be addressed under the umbrella framework of the *Regional 3R Forum in Asia*, which is planned to be inaugurated later this year; and to (b) receive input from the countries on the draft "*Tokyo Statement Towards the establishment of the Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) Forum in Asia*" which is to be adopted by the participating countries at the Inaugural Meeting of the Forum.

4. Through the Working Group Sessions and the Plenary Session that followed, the following priorities were identified by the participants to be focused under the *Regional 3R Forum in Asia*.
 - a. **Mainstreaming the 3Rs** in national development agenda, including environmental and economic policies and programmes;
 - b. **Mobilizing financial resources in cooperation with bi-lateral and multi-lateral aid agencies** for the **implementation of 3R measures and activities** at national and local levels, involving key stakeholders including **private/business sector**;
 - c. Developing **human resources** at local, provincial, and national level to overcome waste management issues, including technical barriers and technological gaps, to achieve **waste prevention, minimization, and source reduction** at the first place;
 - d. Promoting better understanding on the overall benefits of the 3Rs, including the **co-benefits**, leading to better implementation of the 3Rs with a broader scope of **achieving resource efficiency, energy efficiency, and climate change mitigation**;
 - e. **Developing and implementing effective policy mechanisms**, such as EPR, which helps to give incentives to waste minimization and product redesign for easier recycling. **Experience and knowledge accumulated** in the countries implementing such mechanisms **shall be transferred and shared among countries**.
 - f. Building adequate **capacity for collection and safe treatment of hazardous waste** including such waste from household and **e-waste**.
 - g. Developing **industrial capacity for sound recycling**, including in the form of **eco-industrial zones** and clustering, with support from source segregation activities, efficient collection systems, and upgrading of existing facilities.
 - h. Developing necessary organizational framework and support to deal with **informal sectors** who play an important role in the waste chain, but generally operate without proper health care and labour policies;
 - i. Developing and **transferring of environmentally sound technologies**, including cost effective and feasible technologies that meet the needs of the developing countries, for waste management

- j. **Empowering cities** to build them as core clients for financing and investments towards implementation of the 3Rs as well as to enable them **cope up with the emerging issues** such as hazardous wastes, diversification of waste streams, and climate change; and
- k. **Information sharing and research networking** focusing both on generation of data, technical capacity development, and policy analysis towards promotion of **sustainable resource management**.

5. The priority areas identified under No. 4 above have also been included in the revised draft *Tokyo Statement* (refer Attachment 2 - revised draft *Tokyo Statement*, version of 30 June 2009).

- 6. The following timeframe/process was agreed upon towards the first and inaugural meeting of the *Regional 3R Forum in Asia*.
 - a. Further comments and inputs on the draft *Tokyo Statement* to be received by MoE-J: by 8th July 2009.
 - b. Pre-final draft *Tokyo Statement*, reflecting the comments received, to be circulated to the countries, international and aid agencies, and experts along the official invitation to the Inaugural Meeting of the *Regional 3R Forum in Asia*.
 - c. The dates of First and Inaugural Meeting of the *Regional 3R Forum in Asia*: will be announced in the due course.

List of Attachments:

- 1. List of Participants and Agenda
- 2. Revised *draft Tokyo Statement*, version of 30 June 2009