

# Japan's Home Appliance Recycling Law

- enacted in 1998 and enforced in 2001 -

Eiji Hosoda

Faculty of Economics, Keio University

31 October 2006

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## Objective:

To realize sound waste treatment and efficient use of resources through reduction of wastes and full utilization of recyclable resources

To promote Design for Environment

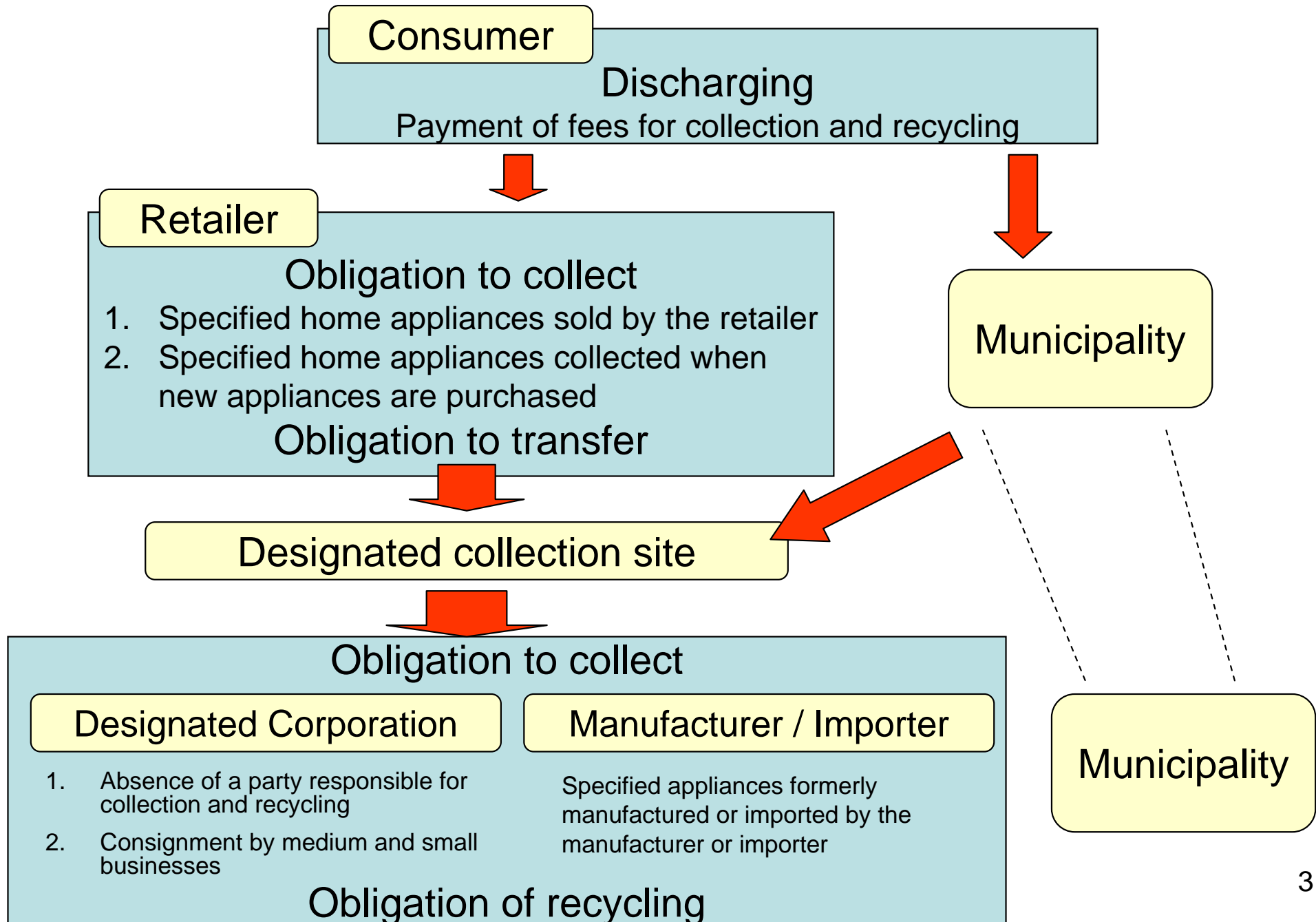
## Mechanism:

To place an obligation on manufactures and retailers of home appliances

## Targets:

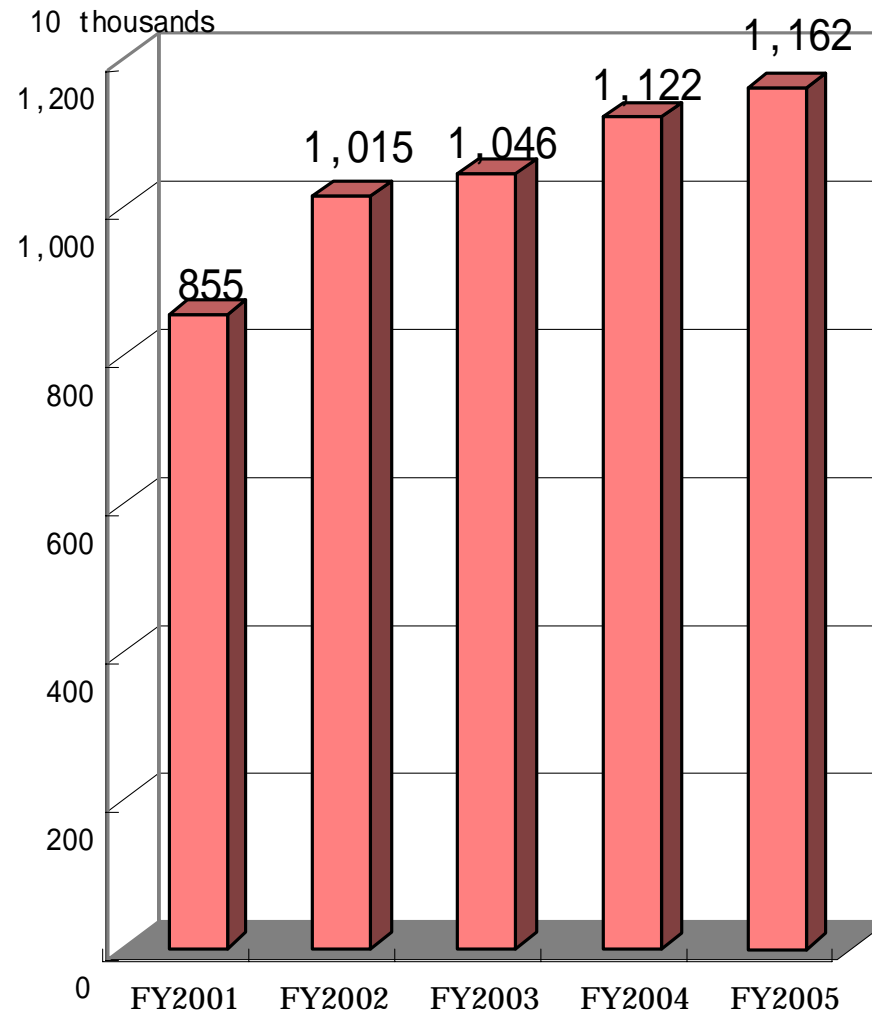
Air conditioners, televisions (CRT types only), refrigerators and freezers, and washing machines

# Recycling Flow of Home Appliances



# Implementation of the Home Appliance Recycling Law (1)

Number of Collected Appliances



# Implementation of the Home Appliance Recycling Law (2)

Table Recycled rates of the designated items in FY 2004

		Air conditioners	TV set	Refrigerators / Freezers	Washing Machines
Number of collected appliances	Thousand	1,814	3,786	2,801	2,813
Number of recycled appliances	Thousand	1,809	3,777	2,807	2,791
Weight of recycled appliances (A)	Ton	79,044	103,200	161,131	85,764
Weight of recycled resources (B)	Ton	64,939	83,868	103,546	58,710
Recycling rate (B/A)	%	82	81	64	68
Standards of recycling rate	%	60	55	50	50

# Implementation of the Home Appliance Recycling Law (3)

Estimated number of illegally dumped appliances

	Number of illegally dumped appliances
FY 2000	122,215
FY 2001	138,525
FY 2002	166,393
FY 2003	176,391
FY 2004	172,499

← Enforcement of the Law

# Review of the Home Appliance Recycling Law

- The Law stipulates that the Government shall review the Law and take necessary actions when five years passed since the enforcement of the Law (April 1, 2001).
- Hence, the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) established a joint committee for the review in June 2006. The committee will discuss several issues at the moment.

# Several Discussion Points in the Review (1)

- Mass Flow of the Appliances
  - *Half* of the Disposed Appliances are Recycled by Manufacturers
- Prevention of Illegal Dump
- Promotion of Design for Environment (DfE)
- Promotion of Reduce and Reuse
- Recycling Fee System
  - Timing of Recycling Fee Payment
  - Transparency of the Fee
  - Incentive toward Lower Fee
- Targeted Appliances
  - Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) and Plasma Display Panel (PDP), etc.



# Several Discussion Points in the Review (2)

- Standards of Recycling Rate
  - All Manufactures have achieved Standards
- Establishment of more Efficient Collection Route
  - From Current Two Routes to One Route, Collection Route for Internet Merchandizing
  - Shipping Cost from Islands to the Main Land (Fairness of Transportation Cost)
- Better Public Awareness
- Recycling System in Perspective of Asia
  - Better Harmonization of Recycling Systems
  - Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of E-waste

# Conclusion

- Collected home appliances are recycled with high standards.
- Yet, an unseen flow of used electric appliances is a big problem.
- How to pay the recycling charge is another big issue.
- DfE must be promoted further than in the present situation.