

# Outline of The 2<sup>nd</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments —Toward the Establishment of Cooperative Relationship among Local Governments in Asia—



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# Activities of Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC)

- ① Promotion of Appropriate Waste Management and 3Rs
- ② Environmental Analysis of Air, Water and Chemical Pollutants
- ③ Function as Secretariat for Monitoring Network related to Acid Rain and POPs
- ④ Implementation of Training Programs for Experts in Developing Countries

# Aims of holding the 3R Conference

Asian region has been experiencing the rapid economic development and increased trans-boundary movement of circulative resources. Under these circumstances, cooperative activities among governments, academics and experts have been carried out.

Besides these activities, we, JESC believe that cooperative efforts among local governments which take a significant part in promoting 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) are essential.

For that reason, JESC held the 3R Conference as a place for exchanging information and opinions in order to deepen the mutual understanding toward cooperative activities for promoting 3Rs.

# Circumstance of holding the 1<sup>st</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments

- Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC) holds “National Convention of Living and Environment” annually as an opportunity for cooperative activities and opinion exchange for the concerned people who are engaged in environment and waste management including officers of the central government, local governments, academics, researchers, companies engineers as well as NPOs.
- To be a part of this event, JESC organized the International Symposium titled “Challenge of Asian Region toward 3R Promotion” for three times from 2006 to 2008.
- With the success of the symposium and the aim of expanding its activity, JESC held the 1<sup>st</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments in October 2008.

# Outline of the 1<sup>st</sup> 3R Conference

■ Organizer — Japan Environmental Sanitation Center

■ Co-organizer — Ministry of the Environment, Saitama Prefecture, Saitama City

■ Program

▪ DAY 1 (October 28<sup>th</sup> , 2008)

- The 1st 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments

▪ DAY 2 (October 29<sup>th</sup> , 2008)

- Announcement of the achievement of the Conference and SAITAMA Declaration at the opening remark of “International Symposium - Challenges of Asian Region toward 3R Promotion”

▪ DAY 3 (October 30<sup>th</sup> , 2008)

- Discussion between overseas participants and citizens of Saitama City

- Observation Tour (3R related facilities)

■ Participants

▪ Overseas (4 Local Governments in Asia)

- Shanghai (China), Ulsan (Korea), Hanoi (Vietnam), Phitsanulok (Thailand)

▪ Japan (5 Local Governments)

- Saitama Prefecture, Saitama City, Sapporo City, Yokohama City, Kawasaki City

# SAITAMA Declaration

Recognizing that the discussion at the 1st 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments that was held on 28th October, 2008 at the place of Saitama, was fruitful and meaningful in that it deepened mutual understanding and facilitated common acknowledgement of a number of issues to be tackled, we, the participants of the Conference, summarize our discussion as follows:

1. In various places in Asian region, the significance of implementing 3Rs policies is increasing under the situation, that the waste-related issues accompanied with economical development are becoming apparent and more important meanwhile the limitation of natural resources such as oils and minerals has become clear.
2. At the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting held in May 2008, the Kobe 3R Action Plan was agreed and endorsed at the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit in July 2008. The movement of the 3Rs advocated by Japan and initiated through the collaboration with Asian countries is now spreading world wide.
3. For this movement of the 3Rs, not only the collaboration among central governments of Asian countries but also the role of local governments is extremely important, which directly provide the services regarding waste management and recycling. In addition, good awareness and cooperation by citizens are essential, and are also important that local governments play a central role and closely cooperate and collaborate with various stakeholders such as national governments, businesses, citizens and informal sectors.
4. Every participant of the Conference strongly recognizes that the 3Rs should contribute to the preservation of natural resources through activities including reduce, reuse and recycling of waste and to the creation of comfortable urban environment and citizens life.
5. Therefore, we gathered at the place of Saitama, where advanced endeavors to address the issues on waste management have been developed, and expect that the 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments is further developed for the realization of both the progress of the 3Rs in Asian region and further international cooperation through the activities such as 'Asian 3R Promotion Forum' to be launched in 2009.

29<sup>th</sup> October 2008

All participants of the 1<sup>st</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments

# Aims of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 3R Conference

- ① Expansion of Participating Countries — Expansion of Network  
4 Local Governments in the 1<sup>st</sup> Conference (2008)  
→ 7 Local Governments in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference (2009)

- ② Cooperative Theme

Reduction of Disposable Plastic Bags

- Mutually agreed theme at the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting in Kobe last year

By sharing the experience and know-how of the efforts made by the participating local governments, we expect this conference may contribute to further expansion of 3R activities in Asia.

# Outline of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference

■ Organizer — Japan Environmental Sanitation Center

■ Co-organizer — Ministry of the Environment, Fukuoka Prefecture, Fukuoka City, Kitakyushu City, Japan Waste Management Association (JWMA), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (OECC), etc.

■ Program

- DAY 1 (October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009)
  - The 2nd 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments
- DAY 2 (October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009)
  - Observation Tour (Kitakyushu Eco-Town Center, etc.)

■ Participants

- Overseas (7 Local Governments)
  - Calbayog(Philippines), Hanoi (Vietnam), Phnom Penh (Cambodia), Sebrang Perai (Malaysia), Shenyang(China), Ulsan (Korea), Vientiane(Laos)
- Japan (5 Local Governments)
  - Fukuoka Prefecture, Fukuoka City, Kitakyushu City, Sapporo City, Saitama Prefecture, Kawasaki City

# Presentation Titles of Keynote Speech

## 1. Situation in Japan

- Kyushu Concerted Efforts for My Bag Campaign — Collaborated Educational Activities for Waste Reduction — (Fukuoka Prefecture)
- Efforts for Reduction of Plastic Shopping Bags in Fukuoka City (Fukuoka City)
- Citywide No Plastic Shopping Bag Point Campaign Efforts for “Kanpass Seal” (Kitakyushu City)

## 2. Situation in Overseas Countries

- 3Rs The Calbayog City Experience (Calbayog, Philippines)
- Promoting 3Rs in Hanoi through Reducing Disposable Plastic Bags (Hanoi, Vietnam)
- Management of Disposable Plastic Bags in Korea (Ulsan, Korea)
- Promoting 3Rs In Phnom Penh City, Kingdom of Cambodia (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
- Establishment of Recyclable Resources Collection / Exploitation System and Promotion of Recycling Business in Shenyang (Shenyang, China)
- Promoting 3Rs through Reducing Disposable Plastic Bags (Sebrang Perai, Malaysia)
- Overview of Solid Waste Management in Lao PDR (Vientiane, Laos)

# Discussion Points

- ① Results and Issues of reducing disposable plastic bags
- ② How to address and take action as local governments
  - Regulations
  - Voluntary actions
- ③ Expectations for the 3R Conference



# FUKUOKA Declaration

Recognizing that the discussion on plastic shopping bag minimization at the 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments, held on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 at the place of Fukuoka, was markedly meaningful in that it deepened mutual understanding and facilitated common acknowledgement of a number of issues to be tackled, we, the participants of the Conference, summarize out discussion as follows:

1. A disposable plastic bag was born in about 1965. Being convenient and lighter than a paper bag, it was adopted at a number of supermarkets and convenience stores in the late 1970's, and rooted in our daily life against a backdrop of mass production/mass consumption culture. However, mass consumption of disposable plastic bags invite furtherance of disposal-oriented mindset and increase of waste generation, cost of collection, pollution of river and drainage systems that cause flood, and induce concerns about such unfavorable effect to environment as disturbing early stabilization of landfill sites after landfill.
2. From a standpoint of suppressing consumption of natural resources and reduction of waste, a number of nations have taken measures that regulate use of disposable plastic bags. In Japan, many local governments undertake efforts of disposable plastic bag reduction, by way of pay services or other means.
3. At the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting held in Kobe in 2008, member nations agreed to address the issue of disposable plastic bag minimization as a symbol of mass consumption and mass disposal. This was incorporated into the Kobe 3R Action Plan, and the movement of disposable plastic bag minimization is wide spreading worldwide.
4. Every participant of the Conference strongly recognizes that the disposable plastic bag minimization should raise awareness for the preservation of natural resources as well as the reduction of waste generation and contribute to proper management of final disposal sites and reduction of greenhouse gas emitted by waste treatment, through the process of the discussion.

5. Therefore, the local governments which gathered at the place of Fukuoka, where advanced endeavors have been developed to address the issues on plastic shopping bag minimization, reached an agreement that they will report the summary of the Conference to the Asian 3R Promotion Forum that will be held November, 2009, and the respective local governments will further work on disposable plastic bag minimization.

6. Given the outcome of the Conference, the participants of the 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments take up the issues of 3R in the Asian region, share the information, and expect that the Conference will further develop in the future.

25<sup>th</sup> October 2009

All participants of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments



# Issues and Prospects in Future

- Two Conferences which gathered officers from Asian local governments and deepened cooperative relationship was a great success. Further expansion of participating local governments is necessary. — The support of the people participating in today's meeting is very important.
- The system which helps to share 3R related information among local governments should be strengthened.
  - Arrangement of information in order and development of information supply system
- Expansion of mutual cooperation among participating local governments