

Biodiversity

Japan recognizes the enormous threat that the loss of biodiversity poses to our economy, culture, and livelihoods and is extremely committed to leading the campaign against this crisis. As such, in 2010, we hosted the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit to facilitate global discussions and donated \$2 billion as part of the “Life in Harmony” initiative, which supports the preservation of biodiversity in developing countries. This initiative helps developing countries to meet the post-2010 CBD targets by offering financial, technical, and strategic assistance with their national strategies for biodiversity. We particularly encourage the search for hidden microbes which may lead to medical breakthroughs. Because biodiversity is a global issue, Japan calls on other developed countries to reach out as well.

Japan was also the first country to complete the third review of our National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. Currently, invasive species and urbanization have caused over 3,000 species to be threatened and many ecosystems, particularly forests and coastlines, to be destroyed. Traditional management of the rural forests has declined, leading to more endangered species. Harnessing the power of cooperation with the private sector and NGOs, our goal is to, by 2020, stop the loss of biodiversity by monitoring and protecting endangered species and habitats, establishing sustainable practices to reduce human destruction of biodiversity, raising awareness of the problem, increasing forestation, combating climate change, and living in harmony with nature (*satoyama*). By 2050, we aim to restore biodiversity to 2010 levels. All this relies on scientific indicators; we believe that formulating a series of indicators for biodiversity should be a priority. Moreover, Japan believes our plan can be an international model. With *satoyama* and rural land management, countries can develop economically by using their biodiversity to their advantage. Guided by these principles, Japan resolves to be a leader in the conservation of biodiversity and stands solidly behind all other countries who share that goal.

Kyoto Protocol

As the eighth highest carbon emitter, Japan recognizes the urgent need to address climate change. In order to limit the temperature increase to 2°C, the global greenhouse gas emissions should be halved by 2050. We were encouraged by the progress made at COP-17, particularly the establishment of the Green Climate Fund to support developing countries and of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, which was formed at the suggestion of Japan to discuss an international framework.

Under the Kyoto Protocol, Japan committed to a 6% emissions reduction by 2012 and aims to reduce emissions by 25% by 2020 (both compared to 1990 levels). Since 1990, Japan has reduced emissions by 5% by combining international cooperation with innovative measures such as the establishment of sustainable communities, or Eco-Towns. Yet as the Kyoto Protocol covers only a small fraction of the global greenhouse gas emissions and excludes major economies such as the United States and China, Japan has elected not to participate in a second commitment period after 2012. Instead, we hope to soon agree on a new, legally-binding framework based on the Cancun Agreements which equally includes all major economies and provides transparency to monitor countries' progress. We strongly support the extension of the Clean Development Mechanism and the Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism, a program which will be implemented in Japan in 2013 to work with the private sector to reduce emissions. Moreover, we urge international cooperation between all countries. Japan has demonstrated our willingness to cooperate: we have launched a climate-monitoring satellite, have pledged \$15 billion in fast-start financing to developing nations, and are actively sharing sustainable strategies with developing

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countries worldwide. Along with the Umbrella Group, Japan remains deeply committed to establishing a new international framework as soon as possible and is prepared to work actively to achieve our common goal of limiting the temperature increase to 2°C.