

Chiba Declaration

The 7th 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments was held in Chiba City on November 13, 2014 with the participation of five local governments from overseas and six local governments from Japan. This conference was held under the collaboration with workshops organized by Ministry of the Environment Japan and NGO, to deepen mutual partnership. Following the presentations on the topic of 3R given by the resource persons, we took up two themes for the discussion; “3R and Infrastructure Improvement” and “3R and Low Carbon Society”.

Discussion was done on the basis of the information presented by each local government on “problems to be tackled”, “policies to solve problems” and “international cooperation among local governments”.

We have summarized the discussion as follows:

1. Inappropriate handling of municipal solid waste causes environmental pollution derived from bad odor and toxic substances and it leads to the spread of infectious diseases through sanitary insects and rodents.
2. Although organic substances in waste can be converted to energy, they will become emission source of greenhouse gas such as methane if they are dumped without recovering their energy.
3. In order to promote 3R and moreover to realize a society based on “3R” and “low carbon emission”, it is important to recover energy from waste by converting into heat or electricity as well as to have proper recycling / treatment facilities in waste management process.
4. Cities from Japan emphasized from their experiences in building appropriate facilities. The followings have to be noted:
 - 1) First, a local government should make a mid-term or long-term plan where its goal and road map are described.
 - 2) Second, to learn specific methods of planning, construction and operation through comparison with other local governments.
 - 3) Third, to study and discuss appropriate technology to be applied.
 - 4) Forth, to have enough communication with local residents and other stakeholders taking NGO’s roles into consideration.
5. For local governments in Asian countries to formulate the above mentioned plans and then to put them into practice, the followings are

recommended:

- 1) They should take ownership in implementing project of waste management, recycling and 3R in the area.
- 2) They should collect necessary information through the channel of international exchange/cooperation among local governments.
- 3) They should make a concrete plan in case receiving financial assistance or human development assistance from overseas.
- 4) They should get citizens involved both in making a plan and its implementation.

We hereby highly evaluate the common understandings as the outcome of our Conference. It is our sincere hope that the Conference will further develop into new stages as we continue to take up issues relevant to 3R promotion in Asian Region to share useful information.

November 13, 2014

Agreed by All Participants
At the 7th 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments