

## Yokohama Declaration

October 24, 2018

The 11th 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments was held on October 23 and 24, 2018 in Yokohama City. The participating parties including four local governments from Asian Countries, four local governments from Japan and other organizations related to 3R promotion in and out of Japan exchanged a wide range of information and opinions under the theme of “Approach for circular economy promotion in Asian Local Governments” and ended the conference with success.

In the meeting, contemporary issues on 3R-oriented waste management were raised in the three keynote speeches; "Problems and Measures regarding Waste Management and 3R society", "Overview of Economics of Waste Disposal and Recycling in Japan :Toward a Circular Economy" and "Hierarchy of Waste Management Policy and Public Involvement in Japan" with the recognition that the 3R is one of the most important policies to deal with waste management.

In the following session, the representatives of the Asian cities and businesses made presentations on their current status and challenges of 3R practices followed by discussion, where they fervently exchanged views to seek for solutions to the challenges.

The following are the summarized outcome of the presentations and discussions.

(1) The promotion of recycling economy is indispensable to realize a sustainable society and has become a goal to achieve not only for Asia but also for the world. What needs to be pushed forward at the same time is to promote measures to curb the global warming, which is accelerating the severity year by year.

(2) To push forward the 3R policy in municipal waste management contributes to the promotion of recycling economy and establishment of low-carbon society. That, however, requires the improvement of appropriate infrastructure such as waste segregation and collection schemes and recycling facilities. What are also important are close communications between the citizens and the local government and environmental education to ensure thorough practice of proper segregation of municipal waste.

(3) To promote the improvement of proper infrastructure for the municipal waste management system in Asian cities, such effective approaches should be taken in collaboration with Japan, as reported in the presentation, as to

share experiences, to assist developing master plans, or to conduct feasibility studies.

(4) Japan's experiences and its cutting-edge technology are expected to be used in solving multilayered problems in waste management in Asia. To meet such expectation, the local governments in Japan and other Asian counties need to have closer communications to share information and to strengthen ties with one another.

(5) It was acknowledged that this conference should continue to be held as the content of the presentation and the outcome of the discussion were of great use for the promotion of recycling economy and the establishment of low-carbon societies in Asian cities.