

Japanese Intervention on IEG

Japan recognizes the importance of the international environmental governance to take adequate measure against the global environmental issues. To do so, it is essential to enhance the cooperation and synergy among UN organization and Multilateral Environmental Agreements so as to utilize the limited UN resources most effectively.

Since GC 25, we have continued discussion under the basic principles of “form follows function” under the leadership of UNEP. As a result, we now have much better understanding over the functions required to improve IEG, possible incremental changes under UNEP, and possible options that cover overall UN system.

As shown in Nairobi Helsinki Outcome, it is important to secure the adequate response toward various “functions” by whole UN system that is necessary for International environmental governance. For example, mid-term environmental strategy by whole UN system, and synergy among MEAs can contribute to strengthen the relation among International organization.

Also, we think the concept of incremental reform is very important. We believe there remain various areas UNEP can make reform under current mandate.

Japan appreciates the work of consultative group, however, we recognize the discussion in the consultative group meeting is not intended to converge the discussion to some certain direction. Therefore, we need to make intensive discussion.

In general, Japan thinks the reinforcement of UNEP is important. But to examine the options of the enhancement of the UNEP, we should examine the merit and demerit of each option from the perspective of cost-effectiveness and budgetal implications. Particularly, when the options refer to the organizational reform, it must include the perspective of scrap and build of current UN organization.

Concerning the proposal to set up high-level expert group, Japan thinks it is meaningful to have an expert group meeting. But, whatever the component of the

expert meeting is, we think it is necessary to have some opportunities to have a feedback from the government on to discussion of the expert meeting. So, we think that the expert group meeting must involve government for example by periodically requesting comments by the governments.