


Korean Policy on Marine Litter

The 1st NOWPAP Workshop on Marine Litter
2006. 6.8 ~ 6.9



해양수산부
MINISTRY OF MARITIME AFFAIRS & FISHERIES

①

Overview

- Crisis of the sea-bed
 - ✓ Destruction of marine ecological space
 - ✓ The contamination of the coastal area accelerated by the over-fishing activity, rapid economic development, marine leisure boom
 - ✓ Insufficiency of environmental facilities, faint consciousness of marine environment
- The background of the policy
 - ✓ Marine litter designated as one of the 6 marine contaminants (water quality, red-tide, damage of the sandbank, etc)
 - ✓ Embarking on management policy of marine litter in 1999

②


Status and problems(1)

- Discrimination by the source
 - ✓ Ocean-based : fishing nets washed out in the typhoon or dumped at times of fishing activity and wastes from the vessel etc.
 - ✓ Land-based : massive waste flowed into the river in the heavy rain
 - ※ The majority of land-based source is tree and plants, plastics, etc.
- Damage by the marine litter
 - ✓ Ghost-fishing, destruction of spawning ground
 - ✓ Damage of coastal view caused by derelict marine litter
 - ✓ Cause of marine vessel accidents

③

Status and problems(2)

- Obstacle to securing management system
 - ✓ Inactive measure of municipal city (lack of budget, etc)
 - ✓ Frequent illegal activity such as leaving rubbish, can, bottle, etc. on the beach and shore



④

Execution of marine litter collection

- Completion of marine litter recovery for 117 harbors and fishing ports from 1999 to 2003
- Embarking on major fishing grounds in 2004
- Investing budget 51,900 million won in marine litter recovery project from 1995 to 2005
- Started marine litter purchase program in 2003

⑤

Future Strategy

- Basic Direction
 - ✓ Development of new paradigms of policy adjusted to change of the marine environment
 - ✓ Conversion of ocean dumping, reclamation etc.
 - To preventive and reductive measures through managing contaminant sources
 - To maximization of reuse and recycling
- Driving Marine Policy
 - ✓ Accomplishment of marine litter recovery project
 - Increase of budget, number of application areas
 - Improvement of budget stability through the special account by marine environment improvement shares

⑥

Future Strategy

- ✓ Promotion of local governments associations to manage the sources of contamination on a regional basis
 - Joint sharing of expenses and responsible wastes management by related parties
 - Providing incentives for organizing the cooperative committee for marine waste management
 - ※ operation model : Seoul, Incheon, Gyeonggi
 - : Budget : 28,500 million from 2002 to 2006
- ✓ Extension of purchase program
 - Raising fishermen's consciousness and saving the cost of wastes recovery and treatment
 - Considering the application of PPP (Polluters Pay Principle) in near future
 - Financial supports for treatment costs only

7

Future Strategy

- Technology practice of collecting marine litter
 - ✓ Distributing equipments resulted from R & D continuously
- Maximizing the recycling of marine litter
 - ✓ Supporting recycling enterprises
 - ✓ Development environment-friendly technology and equipments



8

Conclusion

- Ocean is confronted with the serious crisis with the self-cleansing power lost,
- Though the national interest on marine litter has been focused on the restoration of our marine environments,
- More concrete policy will be realized for further reduction of marine litter.

9