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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation of climate change

## **Views on lessons learned from the mitigation workshops held to date and on future work on mitigation of climate change**

### **Submissions from Parties**

#### **Addendum**

1. In addition to the 11 submissions contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2005/MISC.12 and Add.1, one more submission has been received.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is reproduced\* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

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**FCCC/SBSTA/2005/MISC.12/Add.2**

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SUBMISSION FROM JAPAN

**Submission by the Government of Japan**

**Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation of climate change**

This submission is in response to FCCC/SBSTA/2004/L. 27. Japan welcomes this additional opportunity to share views on the agenda item of the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation.

**1. Views on lessons learned from the mitigation workshops held to date**

Japan highly appreciates the previous in-session workshops on this agenda item as significant occasions to exchange views among Parties. Rather than negotiating texts, Parties shared a variety of their experiences in mitigation measures and listened to a great number of informative presentations by academia, businesses and other practitioners. Japan feels that the workshops nurtured a certain common ground of understanding between all Parties in their consideration of further actions to be taken individually or collectively under the UNFCCC. The followings are matters of special importance for Japan among the lessons that we have learned from the mitigation workshops held to date. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the UNFCCC Secretariat for its preparation of the useful and concise report on the topics presented at the in-session workshops.

**1) Energy Efficiency**

Japan learned that mitigation measures on energy efficiency give a wide range of co-benefits , including reductions in energy cost and improvement of air quality, both for developed and developing countries, and thereby contribute to sustainable development. In addition, we found that both in developed and developing countries, there remain a number of no-regret measures as well as opportunities, technologies, and experiences that could contribute to GHG emissions reduction and sustainable development. At the same time, we recognized that there are many barriers to be overcome for the diffusion and application of such no-regret measures. Since Japan has built up knowledge of mitigation measures through energy efficiency improvement, we desire to further share such experiences with other Parties. Accordingly we clearly acknowledge the necessity of considering more concrete approaches to overcome the barriers in order to achieve broader diffusion of energy-saving technology and policies.

## **2) Technology**

Japan highly appreciates that a common understanding has been developed among Parties regarding the importance of the role of technologies. In particular, it goes without saying that the international community should endeavor to promote the diffusion of existing technologies and the development and diffusion of innovative technologies concurrently in order to achieve the ultimate objectives of the Convention. Also, we support the view that different policy approaches would be required for the diffusion of existing technologies and the development and diffusion of innovative technologies. In particular, the development of innovative technologies needs further actions by individual governments and drastic reinforcement of international cooperation for driving it efficiently, because it will take a long time until it results in emissions reduction, and usually will entail high risks. Then it should be worthwhile noting that there are no silver bullets and that a variety of policies and measures and a technology portfolio are required at both national and regional levels.

## **3) CDM**

We take seriously the message from many developing countries at the in-session workshop at SB22 regarding their expectations of CDM, which would contribute to sustainable development. For global diffusion of mitigation technologies, it is essential to build a market mechanism in order not only to provide developed countries' private sector with incentives for technology transfer, but also to contribute to sustainable development of developing countries. CDM is the mechanism, which can transfer highly advanced energy/environment technologies from developed countries to developing countries by utilizing private-sector vitality. We need to give necessary considerations to associated issues, including institutional reforms to make the mechanism function effectively. Although we do not necessarily regard this matter as an appropriate topic to be discussed under this agenda item, we would like to point out that this is an extremely important issue in considering future mitigation measures and technology transfer to developing countries.

## **2. Views on any future steps**

Recalling Decision 10/CP. 9 again here, we believe that it is necessary to take one step forward from the level of information exchange towards implementation of our commitment in the Convention. Japan is of the view that without any prejudices to negotiations on the post-2012 framework, we should start to discuss at a technical level on what actions Parties should/can take individually or collectively under the UNFCCC. In doing so, we should take full advantage

of the knowledge and expertise of other international organizations such as OECD and IEA, which have already advanced their relevant research work. While mitigation measures should be considered within the context of a broad perspective, e.g. changes in lifestyle and social systems, we would like to propose the following two technological aspects to be dealt with under this agenda item after COP11.

**1) Development and diffusion of innovative technologies**

As regards the development of innovative technologies, the governmental role is essential because it will take a long time before the effects come about, and will engage high risks. However, according to IEA data, public investment in energy technology research by governments has been declining in most developed countries. The role of international cooperation is also important from the viewpoint of effective technology development. Another critical issue is how to involve private-sector to commercialize innovative technologies to practical use and diffuse them. In this context, in order to discuss the next concrete actions under the UNFCCC, Japan considers it worthwhile to look into the successful and unsuccessful examples and practices in the national R&D program of each government, international cooperation on the development of innovative technologies, the role of the private sector, and the effective participation of developing countries therein. Also, we should discuss how international cooperation should be carried out, in other words, what technology should be focused under what kind of objectives and schedules.

**2) Diffusion of existing technologies**

When the diffusion of existing technology is discussed, an appropriate and practical approach would be to first analyze the barriers to diffusion. In this case, it would be useful to analyze non-regret options focusing on specific sectors, since in doing so, we can take into account concerns over international competitiveness and identify technology needs of developing countries more easily. For instance, it is important to examine the energy efficiency of each major sector, e.g., power generation, iron and steel, cement and transportation, and in each region from the available data, including the factors causing differences and best practices. Furthermore, as examples of efforts for technology diffusion, it would be valuable if we would take up the best practices of policy and measures in not only developed countries but also developing countries, and south-south cooperation.

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