

Japan 's Statement (Thematic discussions, May 1st)

Energy conservation and energy supply with the consideration for environment are absolutely imperative in order to realize the sustainable development. Improving the access to reliable and environmentally sound energy services is, in particular, important, which we discuss this afternoon as well as tomorrow morning.

At the Regional Implementation Meeting for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok last January which Japan joined as one of the regional members, we found out that one of the main challenges in the region is how to continue provide and expand access to equitable energy services in support of economic growth and poverty eradication without jeopardizing long-term prosperity and environmental sustainability. I think this circumstance is not specific in Asia and the Pacific region.

Japan believes technology on energy conservation and renewable energy shows the potentials to satisfy both of the economic activities and environmental integrity. Cooperation on environmental-friendly technologies and relative human resource development with the developing countries will contribute not just to improving the energy access, but to promoting sustainable development.

Japan has actively engaged in R&D of renewable energy and energy conservation for the reason of energy security and environmental concern. In the middle and long-term perspective, it is important to seek for simultaneous solution in the issues related to energy, economy and environment. Japan has implemented a wide range of policies and programs in environment and energy which help us positively contribute to simultaneous pursuit in environmental integrity and economic growth. For instance, Japan has promoted renewable energy including the solar power generation, wind power generation and advanced biomass by placing them as valuable energy contributing to improving self-sufficient rate of energy and addressing the environmental concerns such as global warming. We had taken necessary measures in the process such as support in finance and legal development.

Japan believes these experiences will contribute to the objective of environmentally sustainable economic growth in the world. Japan acts as one of the responsible countries with advanced energy/environment technologies, and in this sense we are pleased to join the discussions on CSD 14th to exploit our knowledge and experiences in achieving

our goal articulated in MDG I would like to briefly explain the gist of our international cooperation. One of the significant reason technology transfer does not develop is lack of capacity in the energy area as some of the speakers point out yesterday. Japan supports a number of the workshop, training programs and bilateral and multilateral dialogues in Asia. All these activities support the developing countries in constructing the enabling environment that is what the community needs in terms of access to power. Japan implements “Asia Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy, (APEIS)” and Asia CDM Capacity Building Initiative to improve the CDM projects as some of the activities Japan engages in to realize implementation plan of WSSD. In small island developing states, Japan helps in development of the stable power supply by grant aid. In Asia, Japan promotes demonstration projects for renewable energy technology, especially for photovoltaic system in Asian region. These projects have been operated at 15 sites in 9 countries.

The problems we are facing are interlined among energy, economy, industrial development and climate change. I believe we have to reach the win-win solution with no regret rather than a solution with sacrifice of the others. Clean technologies and capacity building play a central role on this pursuit.