

**Record of Discussion on Cooperative Research on Freshwater Pollution
at
the Fifth Tripartite Presidents Meeting (TPM5)**

During the 4th session of the agenda at the Fifth Tripartite Presidents Meeting held in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan on November 25, 2008, delegates from the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), the National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER), and the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES) discussed the proposal of future cooperation in the area of freshwater pollution under the framework of the TPM. The following points were made:

1. All three institutions agreed that freshwater pollution is an important subject area that is already identified as one of the eight priority research areas under the TPM5.
2. NIER expressed their hope to further promote research cooperation in this research area and proposed to sign an MOU among the three institutions at the TPM5 in order to strengthen the collaborative research activities of each institution.
3. CRAES expressed their appreciation of NIER's proposal and support to the idea to have a joint research project in this area.
4. NIES reaffirmed the importance of cooperation in this area, while expressing that more time would be necessary to further consider within NIES before making a decision on NIER's proposed collaborative research.
5. NIER and CRAES agreed that the collaborative research would be initiated by the two institutions, and to have a working level meeting as soon as possible. NIER and CRAES stated that NIES should be informed of the progress of this collaborative research.

6. NIES expressed their sincere intention to further discuss this issue in the near future with NIER and CRAES. The three presidents agreed to actively explore the feasibility of developing a new research project on freshwater pollution through the designated contact points of each institution.

November 26, 2008 in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan




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