

## **TPM5 – Session 1**

### **Opening Remarks**

Prof. MENG Wei

President, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences

Distinguished NIES president Dr. Ryutaro OHTSUKA, NIER president Dr. KO Yunhwa, Dear friends:

Good morning!

First of all, I would like to congratulate, on behalf of the delegation and all staff of CRAES, on the opening of TPM5 in this beautiful city of Sapporo.

Five years have passed since we established the TPM mechanism. In the spirit of “strengthening mutual understanding, promoting cooperative research” advocated by the Parallel Workshop, I saw the efforts of three national research institutions on strengthening mutual understanding, cooperation and friendship, which I was deeply delighted and touched. Everytime, I am impressed greatly by the communications on issues of concern by all parties. Today, I’m glad to see that there are many new friends here. I am sure that they will bring new concept and vigor to TPM, which also means that our discussion and cooperation will be expanded to broader areas under the TPM mechanism.

The successful TPM4 held in 2007 indicates that the second round of TPM has already shown a promising prospect for further cooperation based on the experiences of the first round of TPM meetings. This meeting will retrospect and put forward cooperative research under TPM mechanism, discuss further cooperation areas, and consider new topics, which are common interest of all parties, based on the six priority cooperation areas in the Joint Communiqué. This embodies the common basis for our cooperation, and it also shows our determination and confidence to strengthen cooperation. It will surely play a positive and propelling role for joint studies under the TPM mechanism.

Although in recent years we have seen the improvement of environmental quality in some parts of China, the environmental problems, caused by the rapid economic and social development, were emerging gradually. It is an urgent problem that requires improvement of environmental management and development of environmental technologies. The Chinese government upgraded State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) to the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP), which shows its strong determination to devote to the improvement of environmental quality. CRAES, being an important technology-supporting research institution, will shoulder more tasks involving environmental management and environmental engineering technology, thus will face more severe challenges.

At present, in China, the Key Science and Technology Project in the field of environmental protection is “Special Water Pollution Control and Treatment Program”

(Special Water Program). This project is supervised and managed by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and I am the chief technical engineer and group leader of the general expert group. The implementation of this project embodies the basic idea of the government to control water pollution, which follows the basic principles of water pollution control and water ecological conservation at watershed scale; integration of water quality improvement and water ecological health; integration of source control and process control of pollution reduction; water-saving before treatment; pollution control zoning, classification and risk pre-warning for pollution control as well as integration of economic and technical feasibility with sustainable development.

The main contents of the Special Water Program include: water pollution prevention and treatment as well as water ecological restoration in typical rivers and lakes; technological integration of drinking water safety, such as: drinking water source protection, deep treatment and transport of drinking water; water quality monitoring, pre-warning and comprehensive management of watershed. Through research and development of key technologies, we will provide technical support for national water pollution control and water environmental quality improvement, in which water pollution prevention and control of watershed would be advanced via technical integration and demonstration, while ensuring sustainable development of social economy. In this regard, we need to attach great importance to international cooperation to learn more advanced technologies and concepts, and to promote sustainable development of our programs.

Japanese Ministry of Environment and Korean Ministry of Environment have many advanced administrative experience in environmental management. This is closely related to the wide and deep scientific researches carried out by NIES and NIER. Taking the platform established under TPM, we hope that through communications and discussions, we can understand and learn more about NIES and NIER's theoretical and practical experience concerning environmental management, while strengthening joint research, speeding up the output of research results so that more effective technical support will be provided for Ministry of Environmental Protection.

I'm looking forward to the excellent presentations in this meeting and further cooperation among CRAES, NIES and NIER. Hope TMP5 a great success!

Thank you!