

## **International Workshop on Eco-city and Biodiversity**

The Eleventh Tripartite Presidents Meeting  
among NIES, NIER and CRAES

### **Opening Address**

Dr. SUMI Akimasa  
President, National Institute for Environmental Studies

November 13, 2014

Good morning,

Firstly of all, I would like to thank all of you for participating in the “International Workshop on Eco-city and Biodiversity” as part of TPM11. I also would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Kawasaki City Mayor, Mr. Fukuda for joining our workshop. I am looking forward to the presentations by today’s speakers and I believe that we will have many opportunities to share knowledge and engage in discussions thus furthering the cause of our mutual collaborations.



The current workshop has two main themes. The first theme is “Eco-city” and the other is “Biodiversity”. There are a number of reasons why we chose “Eco-city” as one of the topics of this workshop, foremost of which is the fact that this is a topic of enduring interest and importance. Moreover, Kawasaki City, the venue for the current workshop is renowned as an eco-city and is without doubt the most advanced in Japan. Not only are we keen to disseminate knowledge about Kawasaki City, but we also hope that the facilities you have seen serve as a springboard for our discussions. A further reason for the choice of this topic is that much research on “Eco-city” is also being completed in Korea and China.

Although we have already exchanged information, knowledge and experiences on these topics of “Eco-city” and “Biodiversity”, we need to deepen these exchanges - and this is the perfect opportunity to do so. In order to effectively elucidate the various issues with which we will have to contend in the future, we also have presenters from

Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Japan and Kawasaki City who will share the many valuable lessons and practical experiences of Kawasaki City in applying “Eco-city” to real world situations, including restoration and conservation of biodiversity. I hope this will facilitate a meaningful exchange of perspectives and feed into further discussion.

The other workshop topic is “Biodiversity” and I am sure you are all well aware of the importance of this topic from local to global viewpoints, with the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP12) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) having just finished in Pyeongchang, Korea this past October. For this, we have also invited experts from MOE, Japan and Kawasaki City to complement those from NIES, NIER and CRAES, in order to allow us to consider “Biodiversity” from a compound-eye perspective.

I would like to once again reiterate that this workshop and the TPM mechanism as a whole are an excellent opportunity to exchange our experiences and further our collaboration. Again, thank you for taking the time to attend this workshop. I hope you will enjoy our discussions and hope that you will return home with a distinct sense of satisfaction with your time in Kawasaki City.

Thank you.