

## Preface

In order to promote further research collaboration in response to the accelerating regional environmental changes in East Asia, the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES-Japan), the National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER-Korea), and the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES-China) have, since 2004, conducted an annual meeting, “The Tripartite Presidents Meeting among NIES, NIER and CRAES” (TPM). At TPM, the three Presidents and representatives of these institutions, which all play a leading role in environmental studies in their respective countries, exchange views on priority research areas in environmental sciences for collaboration.

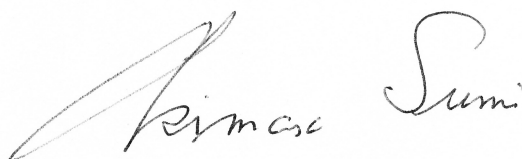
TPM was first convened in Beijing in 2004, as a means to further research ties and collaboration via discussions and workshops involving NIES, NIER, CRAES and related institutions. Each year, one of the three institutions plays host to TPM.

The nine priority research areas designated for collaboration at TPM are Freshwater Pollution, Asian Air Pollution, Urban Environment and Eco-city, Dust and Sand Storm, Chemical Risk and Management, Biodiversity Conservation, Solid Waste Management, Climate Change, and Disaster Environment.

TPM also organize an International Workshop on particular topics of relevance to East Asian environmental problems in order to share information and to encourage further research cooperation. At this year’s meeting (TPM11), the three institutes will discuss the topics of Eco-city and Biodiversity during the International Workshop. To successfully facilitate this workshop, we have invited some presenters from the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Japan and Kawasaki City to speak as a complement to the presentations by NIES, NIER and CRAES.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Kawasaki City and the Biodiversity Center of Japan (MOE) for their gracious supports for this meaningful workshop. In closing, I sincerely hope that this workshop will be fruitful for all participants gathering at the Life Science & Environment research center (LiSE) in Kawasaki City.

November, 2014

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Akimasa Sumi', is written in a cursive style.

SUMI, Akimasa, D.Sc

President, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan