

Statement by the Government of Japan  
H. E. Ambassador Toshiaki Tanabe  
Ambassador for Global Environmental Affairs  
at the Eighth Session of the AGBM

1. The negotiations on global warming is beset by divergent views. On QELROs, some countries have made specific proposals, but they have not been accepted. Some other countries are yet to make specific proposals. However, time is not on our side.

All sides should exercise flexibility so that a mutually acceptable agreement can be reached at Kyoto which provides for meaningful, realistic and equitable targets.

2. It is in this light that Japan took the initiative to present a specific proposal. The proposal is intended to be a balanced package to accommodate the divergent views to the extent possible, and to provide a basis for a compromise among all. As such, it is not intended to reflect all of the views of any particular country, given the wide differences that exist. It is hoped, therefore, countries come forward, expeditiously in the spirit of compromise and without upsetting the overall balance, with specific comments or alternative proposals as necessary regarding the main elements of the Japanese compromise proposal. It is only in this way that negotiations can be speeded up.

3. First, I would like to explain our proposal on the quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives (QELROs).

(1) The Government of Japan proposes 5% as a base reduction rate for deciding a target for each Annex I country. The base year is 1990, and the target period is five years from 2008 to 2012. This proposal is a package with the following conditions.

(a) Green house gases covered by this proposal include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide.

(b) As the quantified target includes a portion prescribed by future technological development and changes of energy situation and industrial structure, etc. which are uncertain factors not foreseen at present, compliance clauses with regard to this portion should have certain flexibility. Formulation of this flexibility has to be stipulated in a protocol or another legal instrument.

(c) The target for an individual country is differentiated by emission per GDP, emission per capita and population growth.