

<PRESS RELEASE>

Commemorative Event to Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol

The Kyoto Protocol will enter into force on Wednesday 16 February 2005, and Ministry of the Environment of Japan in conjunction with the Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City governments will hold an event to commemorate the occasion at the Kyoto International Conference Hall. An invitation to participate in the event is extended in accordance with the outline given below.

The Ministry of the Environment of Japan, in conjunction with the governments of Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City, will hold an event on Wednesday 16 February to commemorate the entry into force of Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change adopted at the Third Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP3) on this day. The event will be held with the Minister for the Environment Yuriko Koike in attendance at the Kyoto International Conference Hall, where COP3 itself took place, under the title of **“Commemorative Event to Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol: Kyoto Protocol Enters into Force! – Messages from around the World”**.

The event will comprise:

- (1) Keynote speeches from Ms. Joke Waller-Hunter, Executive Secretary for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and H.E. Ms. Wangari Maathai, Deputy Environment Minister of Kenya and 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate,
- (2) A commemorative symposium with Bureau Members of UNFCCC/COP10 and other eminent people as speakers, and
- (3) A global relay broadcast of messages on the Kyoto Protocol’s coming into force.

A real-time video broadcast of the entire event will be delivered to the worldwide community over the Internet. Linkages with other events taking place outside Japan are under consideration.

Wide participation in the event is encouraged. Please refer to the attached sheet for details of how to take part in.

<Event Outline>

Title: **“Commemorative Event to Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol: Kyoto Protocol Enters into Force! – Messages from around the World”**

Time & Date: 18:30 – approx. 22:30 on Wednesday February 16, 2005

Venue: Kyoto International Conference Hall (Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto)

Organizers: The Ministry of the Environment, Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City

Program:	18:00	Hall opens
	18:30	Reception
	19:30	Part I – Greetings & Commemorative Symposium

22:00 Part II – Relay of Messages from around the World

Approx. 22:30 Event ends

Participation fee: Free

Languages: Japanese and English with simultaneous interpretation

For further information and press, please refer to the ANNEX1, 2 and 3 or
<http://www.env.go.jp/en/>

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Commemorative Event to Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol: Kyoto Protocol Enters into Force! – Messages from around the World

Time & Date: 18:30 – approx. 22:30 on Wednesday February 16, 2005 (the Hall will open at 18:00)

Venue: Kyoto International Conference Hall (Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan)

Organizers: The Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City

Program

18:30 ~ Reception (Sakura Banquet Room)

19:30 ~ Part 1: (Main Hall)

Greetings

- Representative of the Ministry of the Environment: Opening Remarks
- Governor of Kyoto Prefecture Keiji Yamada: Welcome Greetings
- Mayor of Kyoto City Yorikane Masumoto: Welcome Greetings
- President of UNFCCC/COP10 H.E. Mr. Ginés González García: Guest's Greetings

Commemorative Symposium

1) Keynote Speeches

- Ms. Joke Waller-Hunter, Executive Secretary for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- H.E. Ms. Wangari Maathai, Deputy Environment Minister of Kenya and 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate

2) Panel Discussion: Kyoto Protocol's Entering into Force and its Significance

22:00 ~ Part 2: Relay of Messages from around the World (Main Hall)

Messages about the entering into force of the Kyoto Protocol sent from the different parts of the world will be introduced in the form of a relay broadcast with Minister of the Environment Yuriko Koike.

Messages from different countries abroad as well as messages from eminent people at the venue including Ms. Joke Waller-Hunter, Executive Secretary for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, former Minister of the Environment Hiroshi Ohki (President of COP3), H.E. Ms. Wangari Maathai, Deputy Environment Minister of Kenya.

Details are now being arranged with the relevant countries and organizations.

Approx. 22:30 Event ends

* Bureau Members of UNFCCC/COP10 will attend the event.

* Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Application for the Participation in the Commemorative Event to Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol:

Because of the limited seating capacity of the venue, people who wish to participate in the event are requested to apply for an invitation no later than Monday February 7, 2005. Invitation cards, which must be presented at the venue, will be issued in the order of receipt of applications up to the capacity of the hall. Applications will also be accepted on the day if there are seats available. In some cases, we would like to ask you to show us your ID for admission.

Application by e-mail, fax or post card

Send any of the above, clearly marked “Application to attend the Commemorative Event to Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol”, providing the information requested below to the address shown.

*Information items:

Your full name, address with post code, affiliation, telephone and fax numbers.

*Send to:

E-mail: kyoto-p@ccc-inc.co.jp

Fax or post card:

Kyoto Protocol Commemorative Event Administration Secretariat

c/o Creative Convention Center

Shinbashi Towa Bldg.

2-13-8 Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0004, Japan

Tel: +81-3-5511-1513 Fax: +81-3-5511-1505

*Transportation to the venue

You are kindly requested to use public transportation. The venue is 2 minutes' walk from Kokusai Kaikan Station on the Karasuma Line of Kyoto Municipal Subway. Since the event is scheduled to continue until around 22:30, please check the schedule to confirm that transportation is available for your trip home. In this regard, if you wish to leave before the event ends, you are welcome to do so.

**Coverage of Commemorative Event to
Mark the Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol
16 February 2005 in Kyoto, Japan**

1. Time & Date: 18:30 - approx. 22:30 on Wednesday February 16, 2005

Opportunities for press coverage are during the entire event (including photographing).

Joint press conference is scheduled to be held by Minister Koike and Ms. Joke Waller-Hunter, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC after the closing of the event.

2. Venue: Kyoto International Conference Hall (Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto)

3. Press coverage during the event

(1) Press wishing to cover this event need to return the registration form given below by fax no later than 12:00 PM on Monday, 14 February.

*Contact point:

Policy and Coordination Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

E-mail: kyoto216@env.go.jp

Telephone: +81-3-5521-8244

(2) Please carry your press card (and an armband, if you have one) issued by the press member's home agency/organization and wear the name tag provided by the organizer at the registration desk.

Press Registration Form

Facsimile: +81-3-3504-1634

Please return this form to: Policy and Coordination Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan.

Name of media organization/ publication/ etc.	
Contact address,	
telephone/fax number,	
e-mail address	
Name (s)	
Type and number of camera etc.	