
**Japan's Information Required under
Article 7, Paragraph 1 of the Kyoto Protocol**

The Government of Japan

April 2009

The government of Japan submits this information in accordance with paragraph 2, Decision 15/CMP.1 on a voluntary basis.

Correspondence between requirement and contents of this information are shown in the table below.

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1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory Information

1.1. Steps taken to improve estimates in areas that were previously adjusted

Japan has not taken any step on this issue because there was no specific area that was previously adjusted in the initial review and the annual inventory review for the 2007 and 2008 submissions.

1.2. Information of Article 3, paragraph 3 and paragraph 4

See the information of Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4 that Japan submitted on a voluntary basis according to the paragraph 2 of Decision 15/CP10.

2. Information on ERU, CER, t-CER, l-CER, AAU and RMU

2.1. Information on ERU, CER, t-CER, l-CER, AAU and RMU

For information on ERUs, CERs, t-CERs, l-CERs, AAUs and RMUs in Japan's National Registry, see the annex "Standard Electric Format for Reporting of Information on Kyoto Protocol Units" submitted on the basis of Decision 14/CMP.1.

2.2. Calculation of its commitment period reserve in accordance with decision 11/CMP.1 (Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol)

According to the Decision 11/CMP.1 Annex paragraph 6, Japan calculates and reports Japan's commitment period reserve as described below.

The values of assigned amount and emissions used for commitment period reserve calculation here are rounded the values reported in CRF table to unit of ton CO₂ equivalent.

1. 90 per cent of the Party's assigned amount calculated pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7 and 8, of the Kyoto Protocol

Assigned Amount:

5,928,257,666 ton CO₂ equivalent

Equivalent of commitment period reserve:

$5,928,257,666 \times 0.9 = 5,335,431,899.40$ ton CO₂ equivalent

Rounded off to the nearest whole number:

5,335,431,899 ton CO₂ equivalent

2. 100 per cent of five times its most recently reviewed inventory (submitted in 2008)

Greenhouse gas emissions in 2006 reported in the inventory submitted in 2008, which is the most recently reviewed inventory:

1,340,080,593 ton CO₂ equivalent – (A) (rounded to the nearest whole number)

Equivalent of commitment period reserve ($A \times 5$):

6,700,402,965 [ton CO₂ equivalent]

The lower value between “1” and “2” above, the 90% of the Japan's assigned amount, is the commitment period reserve of Japan.

Commitment period reserve	5,335,431,899 ton CO ₂ equivalent
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3. Changes in national systems in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 1

In FY 2008, the QA/QC plan was revised by taking the Expert Review Team's recommendations into consideration. Under the revised QA/QC plan, Japan reviewed the national system and process for inventory preparation, including QA/QC activities, and enhanced and systematized the national system and QC activities. Moreover, as a QA activity, the GHG Inventory Quality Assurance Working Group (QA-WG) was newly established in order to implement the detailed review for sources and sinks. The QA-WG is composed of experts who are not directly involved in or related to the inventory preparation process. The process includes providing and preparation of activity data, developing emission factors, estimating GHG emissions and removals, and revising the estimation methodologies.

The key changes in the national system resulting from the revision of the QA/QC plan are as follows:

1. Clear documentation of the national system for the inventory preparation and the role of each relevant entity

The roles and responsibilities for each entity involved in the inventory preparation process are clarified. The involved entities are the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), the Greenhouse gas Inventory Office of Japan (GIO), relevant ministries and agencies, organizations concerned, the Committee for Greenhouse Gas Emission Estimation Methods, the QA-WG and selected private consulting companies. Figure 1-1 in Chapter 1 of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report (NIR) of Japan shows Japan's institutional arrangement for the national inventory preparation.

2. New Establishment of the Inventory Quality Assurance Working Group (the QA-WG)

As a QA activity, the QA-WG is newly established in order to implement a detailed review for each source or sink. The QA-WG is composed of experts who are not directly involved in or related to the inventory preparation process.

For detailed information on Japan's national system and process for inventory preparation, see sections 1.2 and 1.3 of chapter 1 in the NIR. Detailed information on the QA/QC plan is described in Annex 6.1 in the NIR.

4. Changes in national registries

4.1. Summary of changes made on national registry of Japan in 2008 and 2009

Reporting Items	Descriptions of Changes
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (a) Change of name or contact	Contact of the registry administrator (RSA) of Japan was changed as follows: (Before) Mr. Yasushi Ninomiya, ysushi_ninomiya@env.go.jp (After) Mr. Reo Kawamura, reo_kawamura@env.go.jp
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (b) Change of cooperation arrangement	No change
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (c) Change to database or the capacity of national registry	No change
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (d) Change of conformance to technical standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As annex E of the data exchange standard (DES) was amended, internal checks to be conducted by national registry of Japan were modified such that they were consistent with those to be carried out by the international transaction log (ITL) in accordance with the revised annex E. - In December 2008, a new function was added to enhance the functionality to handle the Kyoto units as a trust estate under Japanese legislation. - In March 2009, a new function which allows the account holders to obtain notifications for the completion of retirement, cancellation and replacement transactions on the Kyoto units was released. This function also allows the Japanese registry administrators to refer to the history of these notifications having been obtained by the account holders. - In March 2009, a new function was released, on the basis of the change management process under the RSA Forum, to allow the Japanese registry administrators to create an XML file containing the unit holding and transaction information necessary for the preparation of the Standard Electronic Format (SEF) as defined in decision 14/CMP.1.
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (e) Change of discrepancies procedures	No change
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (f) Change of security	No change
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (g) Change of list of publicly available information	Information on unit holdings and transactions is made publicly available on the basis of SEF as defined in decision 14/CMP.1. The following information is not published due to confidentiality

	<p>concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unit holdings at an individual account level - Identity of acquiring accounts to which Japanese registry transferred units and transferring accounts from which Japanese registry acquired units. <p>In addition, for better readability, information on units is not associated with respective serial numbers.</p>
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (h) Change of list of internet address	No change
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (i) Change of list of data integrity measure	No change
15/CMP.1, annex II, para 32. (j) Change of test results	No change

4.2. Information relevant to the changes made on national registry of Japan

- In August 2008, some documents of the DES, which were prepared by the secretariat of the UNFCCC, were revised because the ITL needed to implement new checks regarding the commitment period reserve to support the joint fulfillment in accordance with Article 4 of the Kyoto Protocol. The revised documents and their impacts on the Japanese registry are described as follows:
 - The DES main text (version 1.1.1) was released. There is no change made on the Japanese registry in relation to the release.
 - The DES annex E (a list of the ITL checks, version 1.1.2) was released. Internal checks to be conducted by the Japanese registry were modified such that they were consistent with those to be carried out by the ITL in accordance with the revised version of the DES Annex E.
 - The DES annex G (a list of codes used in the DES, version 1.1.1) was released. There is no change made on the Japanese registry in relation to the release.
 - The DES annex H (the contents of interoperability test of the initialization process, version 1.1.2) was released. There is no change made on the Japanese registry in relation to the release.
- In September 2008, the Japanese government submitted detailed information on the Japanese registry's database structure and its capacity upon request of the Expert Review Team (ERT) established under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol. The information provided to the ERT included the following:
 - The hardware of the Japanese registry's DB server is Sun Microsystems server with disk array storage.
 - The disk array storage is also configured with mirroring architecture and it is possible to exchange a failed hard disk without experiencing system downtime.

- The software of the DB server is implemented with the Oracle relational database management system.
- The DB server has enough capacity to handle all transactions and store various logs based on thorough analysis on the estimated amount of operation to be undertaken by the Japanese registry during the first commitment period (including its true-up period) under the Kyoto Protocol.
- If the estimated amount of operation increases to exceed the current storage capacity, it is possible to increase the capacity by adding more hard disks to the DB server.

This information is included here again, with slight amendments on wording, in order to respond to the recommendation made by the ERT during the review process in 2008.

- In October 2008, information on the Japanese registry administrator was changed.
- In October 2008, the Community Independent Transaction Log (CITL) and the European Union (EU) member state registries were connected to the ITL in its production environment and exchange of the Kyoto units between the Japanese registry and EU member state registries has started.
- In December 2008, a new function was added to enhance the functionality to handle the Kyoto units as a trust estate under Japanese legislation. This function does not require international communications, so there is no impact on the functions of the ITL and other national registries.
- In March 2009, a new function which allows the account holders to obtain notifications for the completion of retirement, cancellation, and replacement transactions on the Kyoto units that the holders transferred to the national holding account was released. This function also allows the Japanese registry administrators to refer to the history of these notifications having been obtained by the account holders. This function does not require international communications, so there is no impact on the functions of the ITL and other national registries.
- In March 2009, a new function was released to allow the Japanese registry administrators to create an XML file containing the unit holding and transaction information necessary for the preparation of the Standard Electronic Format (SEF) as defined in decision 14/CMP.1. The change was made on the basis of the change request which was approved through the relevant RSA process led by the ITL Administrator (UNFCCC secretariat). This function does not require international communications, so there is no impact on the functions of the ITL and other national registries.
- Public information on the unit holdings and transactions conducted was updated on the basis of the SEF for 2008. Some information, which is requested to be made publicly available in decision 13/CMP.1, has not been made so due mostly to confidentiality concerns.

5. Minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14

Japan's Fourth National Communications describe that "Japan (snip) will strive to implement our commitments under the Kyoto Protocol in such a way to minimize social, environmental and

economic adverse impacts on developing countries." However, the methods to evaluate the effort are currently under discussion internationally; hence, it is unable to be assessed.