

Japan, PH to Sustain Partnership on Carbon Credit Mechanism as a Contribution to Global GHG Emission Reduction

The alarming rate in the change of the global climatic patterns has become a medium for countries to foster international cooperation in order to attain the common goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Months ahead of the climate convention in Paris, the Philippine government, through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) - Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), and the Japanese government have been exploring options that would address climate change issues, promote sustainable development, and strengthen international ties. This led to the plan of establishing a Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) with the concept of partnership towards low carbon growth between the two countries.



DENR Secretary Ramon J.P. Paje at the Conference of Parties (COP 21) in Paris, France as he signs the *Aide Memoire* with the Japanese Ministry of Environment, Minister Tamayo Murakawa, in recognition of the provisions of Joint Crediting Mechanism.



DENR Secretary Ramon J.P. Paje and the Japanese Ministry of Environment, Minister Tamayo Murakawa, proudly present the Aide Memoire on the future implementation of the JCM after all domestic legal requirements are met.

The JCM aims to facilitate diffusion of leading low carbon technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure in addition to implementation of mitigation actions and contribution to sustainable development of developing countries. In addition, it will also contribute to Japan's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions or removals, and more importantly, to contribute to the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by facilitating global actions for GHG emission reduction and removal. Japan has been holding consultations with several developing countries since 2011 and as of September 2015, it has successfully established partnership on JCM with 15 countries such as: Mongolia, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Kenya, Maldives, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Costa Rica, Palau, Cambodia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Chile and Myanmar.

With the recently concluded Paris Climate Convention on December 2015, a bilateral meeting was held between the Japanese and Philippine government to express their commitment and support for the effective implementation of the JCM at the soonest possible time. The meeting involved both of Japan's Minister of Environment- Ms. Tamayo Murakawa and the Philippine's DENR Secretary - Mr. Ramon J.P. Paje and their respective teams during which Secretary Paje expressed the need for partnership on top of technology and knowledge in meeting the challenges presented by climate change and for sustainable development.

“Going through this exchange of aide memoire with the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, is a clear manifestation of our country’s serious commitment not only to climate actions but also in recognizing the financial and technological aspects of climate response through global cooperation,” Paje said through his speech as both leaders signed the aide memoire for the future execution of the JCM.

Mr. Albert Magalang, Chief of the EMB’s Climate Change Division, stressed that “the two countries are expected to work in close collaboration for the facilitation of both financial and technical support in line with their respective capabilities for the implementation of the JCM which would start off as a non – tradable credit type mechanism”. In the meantime, both parties are currently working on compliance with domestic legal requirements and regulation for the concurrence to the Memorandum of Cooperation which will further bind the partnership on the JCM. ###