

# THE INTERNATIONAL GREEN PURCHASING NETWORK (IGPN) CONFERENCE in China

March 23-24, 2006

Suzhou

## Conference Report

### **Sponsors**

International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN)  
Environmental Development Center of SEPA, China (EDC)

### **Co-Sponsor**

Japan Fund for Global Environment of the Environmental Restoration and Conservation  
Agency

### **Undertakers**

Environmental Certification Center of SEPA (CEC)  
Environmental Protection Bureau of Suzhou National New & Hi-tech Industrial  
Development Area  
Suzhou National Environmental New & Hi-tech Industrial Park Development Co., Ltd



## BACKGROUND

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Following The International Symposium On Green Public Procurement, which took place in Beijing, China in June 2005, Environmental Certification Center of SEPA (CEC) and International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) agreed to hold another international Green Purchasing conference in China. The conference, titled The International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) Conference in China, took place on March 23-24, 2006 at Overseas Student Pioneering Park, Suzhou Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone, Suzhou City, Jiangsu Province, China.

The conference was undertaken jointly by Environmental Certification Center of SEPA (CEC), Environmental Protection Bureau of Suzhou National New & Hi-tech Industrial Development Area, Suzhou National Environmental New & Hi-tech Industrial Park Development Co., Ltd. It was sponsored by the International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) and co-sponsored by Japan Fund for Global Environment of the Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency.

The one and a half day event targeted business organisations, governments, both domestic and overseas specialists, associations and NPOs/NGOs. Speakers were invited from China, Japan and Korea and over 100 participants attended the conference. Overall there was a high level of interaction between the participants and the speakers throughout the conference with many questions, answers and comments.

## THE FIRST DAY SESSION - CONFERENCE (March 23, 2006)

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A panel of nine presenters participated in this session. The morning session was chaired by Mr. Li Jian, the deputy general manager of China Environmental Certification Center. The afternoon session was chaired by Professor Ryoichi Yamamoto, University of Tokyo / Chair of IGPN.

### **Opening Ceremony**

The opening speeches were delivered by Professor Ryoichi Yamamoto, University of Tokyo / Chair of IGPN, Ms. Wang Kaiyu, the director of Division of Industry Guidance, Department of Science, Technology and Standards of SEPA, Mr. Chai Hanming, vice-director of Jiangsu Environmental Protection Bureau, and Mr. Hu Zhengming, the director of Suzhou National New & Hi-tech Industrial Development Area Administration Committee.

Professor Yamamoto first expressed his appreciation to be present at the conference and thanked each organising party of the event. He then explained the background of the launch of the International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) in 2005 and the annual eco-products exhibitions in Japan and their significance and impacts.

After the speech of Professor Yamamoto, the Chinese speakers explained to the participants the day's programme, including reviews of Japanese and Korean experience on green purchasing and the assessment of the progress of Green Purchasing in China. Each of them wished the best luck to all the participants and thanked them for attending the event.

### **Keynote Speech Session**

"China Environmental Label and Green Procurement of Government" was the first presentation made by Mr. Chen Yanping, the director of Environmental Development Center of SEPA / Chairman of China Environmental Certification Center. Mr. Chen started by thanking all the participants for their presence. He explained the background and status of China Environmental Label and the public green procurement in China and its relationship.

The following presentation was made by Mr. Hiroyuki Sato, Secretary General of IGPN. It was titled "Concept and Significance of Green Purchasing". Mr. Sato started his speech with the concept of green purchasing, moving onto the background and activities of green purchasing in Japan and the experiences of Green Purchasing Network (GPN). He concluded his presentation by highlighting the successes achieved and emphasised the importance of green purchasing and eco-products to be competitive in the global market.

The third presentation was delivered by Ms. Yu Jianke, Director of Environmental Division, Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad. This presentation titled "Green Procurement and Green Olympic" illustrated the Chinese government's plans to reduce the environmental and eco-system impacts of Olympic by implementing the concept of sustainable development, which included: to support the government to heighten the commitment of the environment conservation; to promote the sustainable development of the economy, the society and the environment; to the greatest extent to eliminate negative impacts of the Olympic Games; to escalate the dissemination of the environment conservation and to promote the awareness among the public; to leave the magnificent heritage to Beijing China and the world after the successful completion of Olympic.

The following presentation was made by Mr. Liu Zunwen of China Green Purchasing Network (CGPN). He introduced the CGPN network structure by explaining that SEPA was the operating institution of CGPN and the meaning of its logo. The main aim and the significance of CGPN are to provide services to consumers, corporations and the government's purchasing departments on different levels and to take part in international green procurement.

The presentation from Mr. Kazuyuki Harada from Japan's Ministry of the Environment was the first one of the afternoon session. His speech "The Green Purchasing Law, and Promoting Green Procurement in Japan" contained four parts: Law concerning the promoting of eco-friendly goods and services by the state and other entities; Achievements of green purchasing; The green purchasing law and efforts to prevent the greenhouse effect; The future of green purchasing. He concluded the speech with the goals to be achieved by the government and businesses by the year 2010.

The following presentation by Ms. Hyun-Jung Im from Korea's Ministry of Environment was titled "Green Purchasing Activities in Korea" with the focus on the green procurement law in Korea. The presentation consisted of five parts: The profile of Republic of Korea; Environmental labels in Korea; Green procurement law; Dissemination of green procurement to private sector; After the enactment of the green procurement law. She also explained the learnings from the Korean experience.

The following presentation "Status and Development of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong" was carried out by Ms. Linda W P Ho, Chief Executive Officer of Hong Kong Green Council. Ms. Ho's speech covered the background of Green Council, the current status of green purchasing in Hong Kong, recent developments of green procurements in the public sector, promotions of green procurements for the Hong Kong industries by Green Council, the detailed explanations of Hong Kong Green Label Scheme (HKGLS). She concluded her presentation with the information of the proposed Hong Kong Green Purchasing Network.

The following presentation, titled "IGPN and Green Purchasing Activities on Global Level" was given by Mr. Akira Kataoka, the manager from IGPN. The presentation consisted of two parts: the introduction of IGPN and the global green purchasing activities. Mr Kataoka's speech also presented plans of IGPN future activities.

The last presentation was delivered by Mr. Kenji Tanaka, General Manager, Environmental Sustainability Development Office, Corporate Environment Division, Ricoh Company Ltd in Tokyo, Japan. As the only enterprise participant of the conference, Mr. Tanaka started his presentation with the introduction of the Ricoh Group, followed by the detailed explanations of Ricoh's environmental management and green purchasing. He summarised his presentation with comments that it should be possible to promote global environmental conservation while generating both environmental and financial profit or while executing the mission in better manner as its organisation.

After each presentation, active discussions between the speakers and the audience took place.

After all the presentations Professor Yamamoto gave the closing speech.

## THE SECOND DAY SESSION – POST CONFERENCE MEETING (March 24, 2006)

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The post conference meeting was chaired by Prof. Ryoichi Yamamoto and Mr. Liu Zunwen, and following topics were discussed:

- Status and tendency of international green purchasing
- Function of environmental protection administrations
- Eco-labelling products and green purchasing
- How the enterprises to practice green purchasing
- The advices on government green purchasing in China
- Reciprocity between consumer and green purchasing
- Plans of China Green Purchasing Network (CGPN)

All the participants exchanged their views concerning green purchasing activities, eco-labels and product database and commented on the above topics.

IGPN made a number of suggestions for CGPN to consider for their future activities and offered various types of supporting activities.

Professor Yamamoto finished the meeting with the following summary:

### IGPN:

- Share information (1) to help define eco products are (2) to provide scientific basis of green purchasing
- Have greater communications with China, Hong Kong, Korea and Japan to provide expertise and experience.

### CGPN:

- Consider suggestions and issues discussed for future actions in China
- Confirmed interest in participating Barcelona conference
- Confirm timing of becoming IGPN member (Council / Advisory Board)
- Study response of the conference to plan further conferences in China
- Strengthen cooperation with IGPN

# International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) Conference in China

March 23-24, 2006

Suzhou, CHINA

Wednesday, March 22, 2006

15:00-20:00

## Registration

Thursday, March 23, 2006

**Chairman:** Mr. Li Jian, deputy manager of CEC

### Opening ceremony

Prof. Ryoichi Yamamoto

*Chairman of IGPN*

Ms. Wang Kaiyu

*Senior Officer of*

*SEPA*

9: 00—9: 30

Mr. Chai Hanming

*Jiangsu*

*Environmental*

*Protection Bureau*

Director Hu Zhengming

*Suzhou National New&Hi-Tech*

*Industrial Development Area Administration Committee*

9: 30—10: 00

Photo session / Tea Break

Introduction on Chinese Environmental-labelling System and Government Green Procurement

10: 00—10: 20

Mr. Chen Yanping

*Director of Environmental Development Center of SEPA  
Chairman of China Environmental Certification Center*

10: 20—10: 30

Discussion

Concept and Significance of Green Purchasing

10: 30—10: 50

Mr. Hiroyuki Sato

*Secretary-general Of Green Purchasing Network (GPN), Japan*

10: 50—11: 00

Discussion

Green Olympiad and Green Purchasing

11: 00—11: 20

Ms. Yu Jianke

*Director of Environmental Division, Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad*

11: 20—11: 30

Discussion

Introduction on the website of CGPN

11: 30—11: 50

Mr. Liu Zunwen

*Director of R&D division, CEC*

11: 50—12: 00

Discussion

12: 00—13: 30

Lunch

**Chairman:** Prof. Ryoichi Yamamoto

The Green Purchasing Law, and Promoting Green Procurement in Japan

14: 00—14: 20

Mr. Kazuyuki Harada

*Deputy Director, Environmental and Economic Policy Bureau, Ministry of Environmental, Japan*

14: 20—14: 30

Discussion

Green Purchasing Activities in Korea: Focusing on the Green Procurement Law

14: 30—14: 50

Ms. Hyun-Jung Im

*Ministry of Environment, Korea*

14: 50—15: 00

Discussion

15: 00—15: 20	Status and Development of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong <i>Ms. Linda Ho</i> <i>CEO of Hong Kong Green Council</i>
15: 20—15: 30	Discussion
15: 30—15: 50	Tea Break
15: 50—16: 10	IGPN and Green Purchasing Activities on Global Level <i>Mr. Akira Kataoka</i> <i>Manager, IGPN Secretariat</i>
16: 10—16: 20	Discussion
16: 20—16: 40	Ricoh Group, Sustainable Environmental Management <i>Mr. Kenji Tanaka</i> <i>General Manager, Environmental Sustainability Development Office Corporate Environment Division Ricoh Company, Ltd.</i>
16: 40—16: 50	Discussion
16: 50—17: 00	Closing Speech <i>Prof. Ryoichi Yamamoto</i> <i>Chairman of IGPN</i>

Friday,  
March 24, 2006

**Chairman:**

Prof. Ryoichi Yamamoto  
Mr. Liu Zunwen

**Discussion Topics**

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| 9:00 —12: 00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Status and tendency of international green purchasing</li> <li>- Function of environmental protection administrations</li> <li>- Eco-labelling products and green purchasing</li> <li>- How the enterprises to practice green purchasing</li> <li>- The advices on government green purchasing in China</li> <li>- Reciprocity between consumer and green purchasing</li> </ul> |
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International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN)

Environmental Development Center of SEPA

Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Participants

Environmental Certification Center, SEPA (CEC)

Japan Environmental Association (JEA)

Ministry of Environment, Korea

Hong Kong Green Council



This conference is supported by the Japan Fund for Global Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency

