

P1-3 Mid- and Long-Term Roadmap for Global Warming Countermeasures

Yasuo Takahashi

Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Japanese Climate Change policies have made a progress since the change of power last year. The Cabinet decided on the Bill of Basic Act on Global Warming Countermeasures in March 2010. Although the bill failed to pass during the previous Diet session and was dropped, it will be re-submitted to the next Diet session. The contents of the Bill as mid- and long-term goals are:

- 25% CO₂ reduction below 1990 level by 2020 (premised on the establishment of a fair and effective international framework by all major economies and agreement on their ambitious targets);
- 80% CO₂ reduction below 1990 level by 2050; and
- raising the share of Renewable Energy out of total primary energy supply to 10% by 2020.

In line with the Bill, Environment Minister Sakihito Ozawa announced the draft proposal on the Mid- and Long-Term Roadmap at the end of March: 1) Global warming countermeasures are an urgent issue necessary to protect the environment in Japan and the rest of the world. The roadmap proposes a path of measures and policies for reducing emissions by 25% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050; 2) Promoting environmental investments and practicing a low-carbon lifestyle (or, an eco-friendly lifestyle) will allow people to live comfortable, affluent lives—not lives based on tolerance. The efforts of each and every national citizen via Challenge 25 campaign are needed in order to achieve mid- and long-term objectives; and 3) It is important not to only focus one's attention on environmental burdens alone, but to think of global warming countermeasures as a pillar of new growth. Investing in the construction of a low-carbon society will generate a variety of merits, including the cultivation of new markets and jobs, vitalization of communities, and ensuring energy security.

Key policy measures included in the Bill mentioned above were 1) introduction of domestic emission trading scheme (ETS) within around a year, 2) 'greening' tax system, including the consideration of a global warming tax to be implemented from 2011 and 3) feed-in Tariff (FIT) system for whole renewable energy. These key measures are broken down with the milestones for measures and policies as necessary for a mid- and long-term goal.

Draft proposal by Environment Minister Sakihito Ozawa for public consultation (Announced March 31, 2010) includes milestones for measures and policies necessary for a mid- and long-term goal.

For example of policies for daily life

- 100% Achievement Rate of a higher Energy Efficiency Standard for all newly built homes and buildings in 2020 / 100% Achievement Rate of Zero Emission Homes and Buildings for all newly built homes and buildings in 2030
- 2.5 million sales of next-generation vehicles in 2020

Community development

- -10% reduction of per passenger automobile use
- manufacturing
- reduce energy usage by 30 -40% by 2050

Energy supply

- 10% of primary energy supply to be renewable energy sources by 2020
- nuclear power generation

Core social systems for creating a low-carbon society

- domestic emission trading scheme, Global warming tax

To promote the implementation of climate change policies, research are needed in the area of evaluation of cost' toward LCS, evaluation of economic impacts

of early actions of mitigation based on, e.g., game theory, guideline for appropriate interpretation of the results of economic modeling, appropriate combination of top-down and bottom-up modeling, and research

on the potential of GHG reduction and appropriate policy measures to enhance mitigation in developing countries.