

# ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE PROTOCOL ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO THE ANTARCTIC TREATY

**JAPAN**  
**2003/2004 SEASON**

## **1 Notification pursuant to Article 17 of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty**

### ***1-1 Notification of the measures taken pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 1 and 2, of the Protocol (Background information)***

A law that ensures implementation of the Protocol in Japan, *the Law relating to Protection of the Environment in Antarctica (Antarctic Environment Law)* was promulgated in the gazette on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1997 and entered into force on 14<sup>th</sup> January 1998 at the same time the Protocol itself entered into force, in Japan.

*The Cabinet Ordinance for enforcing the Antarctic Environment Law and the Prime Minister's Office Ordinance for enforcing the Antarctic Environment Law* was promulgated in the gazettes between July and September 1997.

The instrument of acceptance of the Protocol was received by the Government of the USA on December 15 1997.

The text of *the Antarctic Environment Law* is available from:

<<http://www.env.go.jp/en/lar/antarctica/index.html>>

Japan has been disseminating small pamphlet (Japanese and English version) and website (Japanese and English version) "Antarctica", including outline of natural environment in Antarctica, procedures for visiting Antarctica and short history of Japanese Antarctic Research.

The website is available from:

<<http://www.env.go.jp/earth/nankyoku/kankyohogo/index.html>>

### ***1-2 Contingency plans established in accordance with Article 15 of the Protocol***

Syowa Station Oil Spill Contingency Plan was finalised in 1996 according to the

COMNAP guidelines. That plan (Japanese version) is available from:

Environmental Section  
National Institute of Polar Research  
1-9-10 Kaga, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo  
173-8515 Japan  
tel : +81-3-3962-0548

## **2 Report pursuant to Annex I, Article 6 (1) of the Environmental Protocol**

### ***2-1 Procedures to consider the environmental impacts of proposed activities in Antarctica (Annex I, Article 6 (1a))***

All activities in Antarctica are subjected to rigorous environmental impact assessment procedures. These procedures are in accordance with Annex I of the Environmental Protocol. Further information can be obtained at the following address:

Global Environment Issues Division, Global Environment Bureau  
Ministry of the Environment  
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
100-8975 Japan  
tel : +81-3-3581-3351

### ***2-2 List of Initial Environmental Evaluations developed in accordance with Article 2 and decisions taken (Annex I, Article 6 (1b) and also ATCM Resolution 6 (1995))***

During the 2003/2004 season, some Initial Environmental Evaluations (IEE) were prepared in accordance with Annex I, Article 2 of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty. The Annual list of IEE is provided in appended table.

### ***2-3 Significant information obtained, and any action taken in consequence thereof, from procedures put in place in accordance with Annex I, Articles 2(2) and 5, of the Protocol (Annex I, Article 6 (1c))***

During the 2003/2004 season, no significant information was obtained from procedures put in place in accordance with the provisions of Annex I of the Protocol.

### ***2-4 Information referred to in Article 3 (6) on Comprehensive Environmental Evaluations (Annex I, Article 6 (1d))***

During the 2003/2004 season, no draft CEEs or final CEEs was prepared for Japanese activities in Antarctica.

### **3 Report pursuant to Annex II, Article 6 of the Environmental Protocol**

#### **3-1 Number and nature of permits issued under Annex II of the Protocol during the 2003/2004 season (Annex II, Article 6 (2) of the Protocol)**

The following permits were issued under Annex II of the Protocol during the 2003/2004 season.

<b>Date issued</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Number/ Amount permitted</b>	<b>Number/ Amount actually taken</b>
2003 Nov.13	Weddell seal	Soya Coast (69 ° 00 S , 39 ° 00 E)	Attaching data loggers and tags (catch and release)	100 tags (including 20 data loggers)	100 tags (including 20 data loggers)
	Adelie Penguin	Soya Coast (69 ° 28 S , 39 ° 37 E)	Attaching data loggers	30 tags	30 tags
	Mosses (Bryum pseudotriquetrum, Leptobryum pyriforme)	Soya Coast (69 ° 40 S , 39 ° 43 E) (69 ° 40 S , 39 ° 25 E) (69 ° 40 S , 39 ° 25 E)	Sampling for Mosses	minimum amount necessary for the research	ca.,5kg

## **4 Report pursuant to Annex III, Article 9 of the Environmental Protocol**

### **4-1 Waste Management Plans Prepared in Accordance with Annex III, Article 8 of the Protocol (Annex III, Article 9 (1) of the Protocol)**

#### **( 1 ) Syowa Station**

The Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE) introduced the Waste Management Plan to implement necessary operating procedures such as segregation, disposal and management of wastes after the Madrid Protocol was completed in 1991.

According to the plan, some combustible wastes are incinerated and sewage and grey water are treated by the biological treatment plant and its sludge is carbonized into charcoal. The ash, the charcoal and other wastes are brought back to Japan.

Larger wastes such as snow vehicles, trucks and building materials stored at Syowa Station are also brought back to Japan every year according to the clean-up operation plan.

#### **( 2 ) Dome Fuji**

JARE has not yet introduced the Waste Management plan with regards to Dome Fuji. Wastes produced from the present activities are disposed according to *Antarctic Environment Law*.

### **4-2 Report on implementation of waste management plan (Annex III, Article 9 (1) of the Protocol)**

The Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition Waste Management Plan was implemented as follows during the 2003/2004 season.

<b>Category and Type</b>	<b>Disposal method</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
<b>Group 1 - Sewage and Domestic Liquids</b>		
Sewage (from summer accommodation)	Diluted and discharged into Sea	9.9 kl
Grey water (from summer accommodation)	Ditto	792 kl
Sewage and Grey water (from winter accommodation)	Biologically treated (Contact aeration process) and discharged into Sea	1597 kl
Sludge	Carbonized and brought back to Japan	19 kg
Waste oil	Removed and brought back to Japan	6755kg
<b>Group 2 - Other liquid chemicals &amp; waste (including fuels &amp; lubricants)</b>		
Photographic chemicals	Removed and brought back to Japan	1355kg
Other liquid chemicals	Removed and brought back to Japan	10kg
Lubricants	Removed and brought back to Japan	1630kg

<b>Group 3 - Combustible wastes</b>		
Paper products and wooden fragments	Incinerated	5.07 t
Corrugated carton and books	Removed and brought back to Japan	4.97 t
Untreated wood	Removed and brought back to Japan	34.2 t
Food scraps	Carbonized and brought back to Japan	6.48 t
Polyurethane & polystyrene foams & Other plastics	Removed and brought back to Japan	6.62 t
Rubber	Removed and brought back to Japan	0.77 t
Bedding, cloth	Removed and brought back to Japan	1.58 t
Medical waste	Removed and brought back to Japan	0.92 t
<b>Group 4 - Other solid wastes</b>		
Glass	Removed and brought back to Japan	2.50 t
Metal cans	Removed and brought back to Japan	2.99 t
Aluminium cans	Removed and brought back to Japan	1.72 t
Building waste	Removed and brought back to Japan	2.14 t
Scrap iron	Removed and brought back to Japan	38.84 t
Aluminium foil	Removed and brought back to Japan	5kg
Vehicles	Removed and brought back to Japan	18.23 t
Batteries	Removed and brought back to Japan	0.64 t
Non – liquid chemicals	Removed and brought back to Japan	0.04 t
Incinerator ash	Removed and brought back to Japan	1.37 t
Charcoal made from food scrap	Removed and brought back to Japan	4.87 t
Other solid wastes	Removed and brought back to Japan	16.49 t
Unopened waste food	Removed and brought back to Japan	3.15 t
Waste fluorescent light bulbs	Removed and brought back to Japan	0.12 t

## **5 Report pursuant to Annex V, Article 10 of the Environmental Protocol**

### ***5-1 Number and nature of permits issued under Annex V of the Protocol during the 2003/2004 season (Annex V, Article 10 (2) of the Protocol)***

The following permits were issued under Annex V of the Protocol during the 2003/2004 season.

<b>Date issued</b>	<b>Number of active person permitted / actually</b>	<b>Active Period</b>	<b>ASPA No. and Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
2003 Nov.13	seven/ seven	2004 Feb.2 - 4 (three days) and Feb.4 - 10 (seven days)	No. 141 (SSSI 22) Yukidori Valley, Langhovde (69 ° 14 S, 39 ° 46 E )	Feb.2 – 4 Monitoring vegetation structure and mending observatory  Feb.4 – 10 Observation of vegetation structure  Feb.2 - 10 Inspection and research No.141 ASPA
2004 Feb.2	three/two	The same as above	The same as above	The same as above

### ***5-2 Summary descriptions of activities conducted in ASMA or ASPA (Annex V, Article 10 (3) of the Protocol)***

See 5-1 above.

### ***5-3 Measures taken to implement the provisions of Annex V (Annex V, Article 10 (4) of the Protocol)***

Japan ensure the implementation of the regulation in Annex V, which are relevant to the ASPA, HSM, and the management plan of ASPA through enactment of *Antarctic Environment Law*.

Visitors who have been permitted to enter ASPA during the 2003/2004 season, are obliged to submit a visit report.

Japan did not conduct any site inspections in protected area.

**6 Inventory of Past Activities in accordance with Annex III,  
Article 8 (3) of the Environmental Protocol**

<b>Station Name</b>	<b>Type of Activity</b>	<b>Period of Occupation</b>	<b>Average level of Activity</b>	<b>Remnants &amp; Date last visited</b>	<b>Disposal plans &amp; dates</b>
Mizuho (70 ° 42 S, 44 ° 20 E)	Scientific observation	From July 1970 to present	4 times × 8 persons / yr	2002 summer	None planned
Asuka (71 ° 32 S, 24 ° 08 E)	Scientific observation	From January 1985 to present	Now temporarily closed	1991 winter	None planned