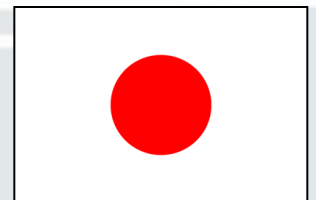


Actions and Strategies on Harmonization of Monitoring Procedures of Microplastics in the Ocean

- A cooperation programme for pursuing the accuracy of data-

Sayo Morita
Office of Marine Environment
Ministry of the Environment, Japan





In the context of G7 meetings;

■ G7 Elmau Summit in Germany in 2015

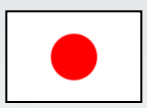
We acknowledged that **marine litter**, in particular plastic litter, posed a global challenge, and committed to priority actions and solutions to combat **marine litter** as set out in the annex of the Leaders' Declaration.

■ G7 Ise - Shima Summit in Japan in 2016

The **marine litter** was discussed in resources effectiveness and 3R (“Reduce”, “Reuse” and “Recycle”).

■ G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting in Japan in 2016

It was reaffirmed the political intention such as the Ministers of the Environment of G7 and EU that the “G7 action plan to combat **marine litter**” (in the annex of the Leaders' Declaration) push forward quickly and surely.



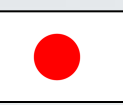
In the G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting;

■ We are committed to Implementing the following priority measures, in close collaboration and cooperation within the G7 and at other fora (e.g. the G20) based on the Leaders' Declaration of the G7 Elmau Sammit and its annex the *"G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter"*.

- (1) Promotion of environmentally sound waste managements
- (2) Promotion of reducing marine litter, and its collection and removal action before it degrades into microplastics
- (3) Promotion of international collaboration working with international organizations such as UNEP, IMO and FAO
- (4) Promotion of outreach and educational activities
- (5) Actions towards standardizing and harmonizing monitoring methodologies



Progress of the Action



International Expert Meeting on Standardization/Harmonization of Microplastics Monitoring in the Ocean Tokyo, 10-11 December 2016

Organizer	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Secretariat	Association of International Research Initiatives for Environment Studies(AIRIES)/IDEA Consultants, Inc.
Participants	Overseas (6) and Domestic (6) Experts
Purpose	to discuss necessary investigation/projects towards achieving standardization and harmonization on microplastics monitoring.
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Recommendation on standardization/harmonization of monitoring procedure for microplastics in the ocean- Ways forward including a proposal for a joint study on pursuing the accuracy of data



Actions taken for standardization/harmonization of microplastics monitoring in the ocean



2 dimension (2D) distribution map of microplastics as the purpose and effective practice for standardization/harmonization of monitoring:

1. Global 2D distribution map of microplastics is required
 - validation of simulation models
 - evaluation of countermeasures taken
2. Standardization/Harmonization of monitoring
 - needs to ensure inter-comparability
 - make use of widely used methods/techniques
 - organize joint experiments for comparability and/or inter-comparison
3. Possible ways forward
 - a joint pilot project toward 2D distribution map is proposed



Actions taken for standardization/harmonization of microplastics monitoring in the ocean



Next steps:

1. PPMMP (Pilot Project on Mapping of MP)
 - start mapping activity based on the methodology discussed
 - include experiments of inter-comparison
 - share information with other groups
2. Expert workshops
 - (3D mapping, harmfulness, biological sampling, ...)
3. Regional collaborations
 - bilateral
 - WESTPAC, NOWPAP, PICES



□ Japan-China high-level consultation on maritime affairs

1. Both Parties agreed to promote the establishment of the China-Japan Experts Dialogue Platform for Marine Debris Cooperation and jointly convene the 1st meeting by March, 2017. Technical officials and experts from both Parties will be invited to attend the meeting and jointly work out a plan of collaborative activities in 2017.
2. Joint research on methodology and standards of marine debris monitoring, and microplastics toxicity were identified as the areas of priority to conduct the cooperation on by both Parties.
3. It was agreed by both Parties to enhance experts exchanges and organize an academic workshop in 2017 in which the technical officials and experts from the relevant institutions and universities of both Parties will be invited to join.
4. Both Parties shared the views that China and Japan, as neighboring countries in Asia, should strengthen the communication and cooperation on marine debris research and marine pollution prevention under the framework of IOC/WESTPAC and the other regional/international ocean related Organizations



□ Action in the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)

- One of the regional sea action plans of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).
- Aimed for marine environmental conservation by Japan, Korea, China and Russia
- 2007 - now : Local action plan (RAPMALI)
 - Information sharing of the marine litter by the government of every country
 - Holding of the workshop
 - Enforcement of the shore cleaning campaign



2015 NOWPAP ICC



THANK YOU!

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