

Outline of G8 Environment Ministers Meeting 2008



Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture, JAPAN

May 24 - 26



Ministry of the Environment JAPAN

G8 Environment Ministers Meeting in Japan

Hokkaido Toyako

Tokyo

Kobe

Venue :

**Kobe Portopia Hotel
Kobe,
Hyogo Prefecture**

Date :

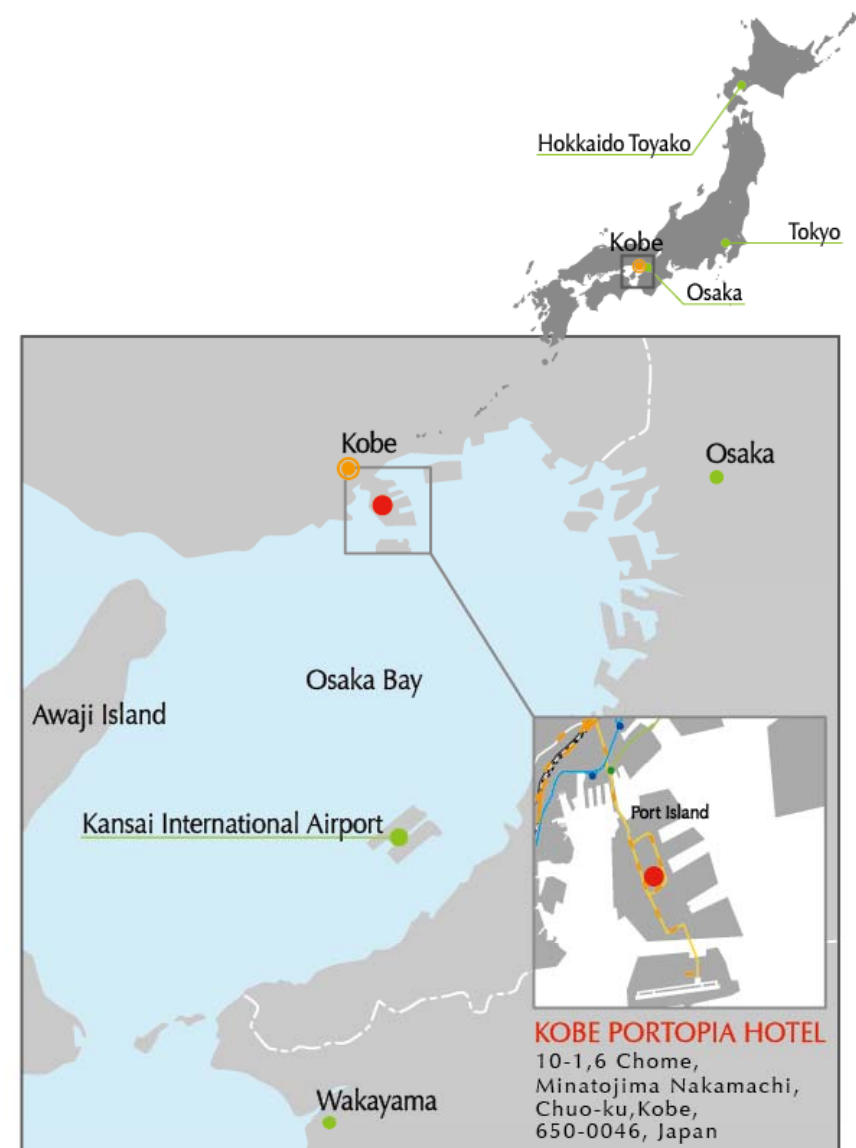
May 24 – 26, 2008

VENUE

KOBE PORTOPIA HOTEL



Access from
Kansai International Airport
→ 70min. by car



provisional PROGRAM

Saturday, May 24

- 13:00-13:50 - Opening ceremony
 - 14:00-15:30 - Dialogue with Stakeholders
 - 16:00-18:30 - **Session 1: Biodiversity**
 - 19:00-21:00 - Dinner hosted by the Minister of the Environment of Japan
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Sunday, May 25

- 8:30-11:00 - **Session 2: 3Rs**
 - 11:30-13:00 - **Session 3: Climate Change**
 - 13:00-14:30 - Lunch
 - 14:30-16:00 - **Session 4: Climate Change**
 - 16:30-18:00 - **Session 5: Climate Change**
 - 18:45-19:30 - Visit to Environmental Exhibition (near Kobe station)
 - 20:00-21:30 - Dinner hosted by the Governor Hyogo Prefecture and the Mayor of Kobe City
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Monday, May 26

- 9:30-10:30 - **Wrap-up Session**
- 10:30-11:00 - Closing ceremony
- 11:15-11:45 - Press Conference
- 12:00- - Excursion(including lunch)
Mt. Rokko,etc.

provisional information on LOGISTICS

- **ACCOMMODATION :**

Hotel reservations and arrangements will be made by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan. We will cover the cost of the guest rooms for the Minister and for a few accompanying delegates.

- **TRANSPORTATION:**

Ministers and all delegates will be provided transportation to/from the Kansai Airport to/from the Kobe Portopia Hotel.

- **CONTACT POINT :**

Preparatory Task Force for the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting
Ministry of the Environment of Japan

T. +81-(0)3-5521-8347 F. +81-(0)3-5521-8276

- Kumiko Kuramochi(Ms.) G8@env.go.jp
- Makoto Kamo(Mr.) makoto_kamo@env.go.jp

FEATURE

Environmentally Sound Meetings

- Introducing low emission vehicles and selecting environmentally friendly products.
- Carbon offsetting measures for unavoidable emissions.



AGENDA

Recent G8 Environment Ministers Meetings

DATE	LOCATION	AGENDA
2000	Otsu, JAPAN	●Climate Change ●Sustainable Development in the 21 st Century and Rio+10 ●Environment and Health
2001	Trieste, ITALY	●Climate Change ●Sustainable Development towards Johannesburg 2002 ●Environment and Health
2002	Banff, CANADA	●Environment and Development ●Environmental Governance Environment and Health
2003	Paris, FRANCE	●Development of Africa ●Sustainable Production and Consumption ●Environmental Governance
2005	Derbyshire, U.K.	< Environment and Development Ministers Meeting > ●Biodiversity ●Climate Change in Africa ●Illegal Logging
2005	London, U.K.	< Energy and Environment Ministerial Roundtable > ●Creating Lower Carbon Energy Systems
2007	Potsdam, GERMANY	●Climate Change and Energy ●Biodiversity

AGENDA

3 Agenda Japan proposes for the Meeting :

1. Climate Change
2. Biodiversity
3. 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse & Recycle)

AGENDA

1. Climate Change :

Based on the outcomes of COP13, G8 contributes to accelerate post-2012 negotiation through discussion of Low Carbon Society, Co-benefits approach, equitable burden sharing, and mainstreaming adaptation into development policies.

2. Biodiversity :

The crucial importance of biodiversity was emphasized at Heiligendamm Summit 2007. We will further discuss how we can achieve our goal, “2010 Biodiversity Target” and beyond.

3. 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse & Recycle) :

Building on the policy developments since the launch of the “3R Initiative” in 2005, G8 will discuss further actions to promote the “3Rs”; Reducing wastes and Reusing & Recycling resources.

PROCESS toward the Kobe Meeting

Climate Change

Biodiversity

3Rs

2007 Nov.30 / Rome

Informal Breakfast Mtg. for Preparations for the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting

2007 Dec.3-14 / Bali
COP13

2008 Feb.4 / Tokyo

Briefing on Logistics for Embassies in Japan

2008 Mar.14-16 / Chiba
G20 Gleneagles Dialogue

2008 Feb.18-22 / Rome
SBSTTA13

2008 Mar.18-19 / Tokyo
Asia 3R Conference

2008 Apr. 5, 6 / (Tokyo)

Preparatory Mtg. for the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting

2008 May.12-16 / Bonn
COP/MOP-4 Cartagena Protocol

2008 May.19-30/ Bonn
COP9

2008 May 24-26 / Kobe

G8 Environment Ministers Meeting

Overview of Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City



Overview of Hyogo

Hyogo Prefecture – “A Japan in Miniature”

Hyogo Prefecture extends from the Japan Sea in the north to the Seto Inland Sea in the south, and further down to the Pacific Ocean through Awaji Island.

Hyogo consists of 5 highly distinctive districts; Settsu (Kobe and Hanshin), Harima, Tajima, Tamba, and Awaji, each of which has its own unique history, climate and industry.



Yumura Hot Spring



Hachi-Kogen Ski Resort

Hyogo contains a variety of communities from large cities to rural villages, and also isolated islands. Its diversity of natural features, as well as various leisure activities including skiing, swimming in the ocean and bathing in various natural hot springs, attract many tourists all year round. For these reasons, Hyogo has become to be known as a “Japan in miniature”.

Overview of Hyogo

POPULATION & INDUSTRIES

The population of Hyogo is approximately 5.6 million and accounts for 4.4% of the total population of Japan. The industries such as steel, shipbuilding and machinery are concentrated on the Seto Inland Sea coast. While the agriculture, forestry and fisheries industries are widely expanded in the rest of the area. As of 2006, its total real GDP was 21 trillion yen, which accounts for 3.8% of the total GDP of Japan.



Seto Inland Sea at Sunset



Serene Sea of
Clouds in
Northern Area

CLIMATE

Due to the region's vast land size, climates in Hyogo vary by region and can be categorized into 3 different geographic zones; the southern area along the Seto Inland Sea, the northern area along the Japan Sea, and the mountainous inland area.

The climate in the south is moderate with little rainfall, while the cloudy and rainy north receives seasonal winds from Siberia in the wintertime and has much snowfall.

Overview of Hyogo

EARTHQUAKE

Ever since the tragic disaster of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in January 1995, various efforts have been made toward “Creative Reconstruction”. Its aim is to achieve more than just returning the region back to the pre-earthquake state, but to recreate the society for further development into the future.



Hanshin Expressway after the Earthquake



Oriental White Stork

ORIENTAL WHITE STORK

The wild storks have completely vanished from Japan, after they were last seen in their homeland, Hyogo in 1971. However, in 1988, concerted efforts culminated in the achievement of the first artificial breeding of the storks. Finally, the storks were released to the wild for the first time in 2005 and continuous progress has been made since then.

Overview of Kobe

Kobe City – An Urban City Blessed with Abundance of Beautiful Natural Surroundings

Kobe City is located just to the west of center on the main island of Honshu in the area known as the Kansai Region. It is part of the Osaka-Kobe-Kyoto metropolitan area. Kobe is classified as one of Japan's 17 designated cities.



Colonial House in Rokko Mt.

Geographically, Kobe can be roughly divided into 2 sections by the Rokko Mountain Range. The southern area which faces the Osaka Bay, forms the urbanized area, while the western and northern areas have become the construction sites for large-scale new towns that also maintain harmony with their natural surroundings.

Overview of Kobe

AREA & POPULATION

Kobe currently covers an area of 552sq.km (36 km from east to west and 30 km north to south). And despite having to recover from 2 devastating periods in its history (WWII and the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995), its population has surpassed 1.5 million.



China Town in Kobe



Foreign Settlement in the 19th Century

HISTORY

Kobe has developed along with the opening of the Port of Kobe in 1868. The Foreign Settlement that formed around the port became the doorway for foreign cultures to enter Japan. This settlement also played an important role in bringing a stylish and modern atmosphere to the entire city.

Overview of Kobe

ECONOMY

Kobe is the busiest container port in the Kansai region, surpassing even Osaka, and the fourth busiest in Japan. As of 2006, its total real GDP was 5.9 trillion yen, which accounts for 28% of the total GDP of Hyogo Prefecture and approximately 1.1% of Japan.



Port of Kobe



Maiko Beach and Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge

TOURISM

Kobe is one of the biggest tourist destinations in Japan, with 28 million visitors annually. There are many attractions in the city and in nearby areas including magnificent greenery in the Rokko Mt., sun bathing in the Suma coast, boating in the Port of Kobe, and natural hot springs in Arima.