

## Asia Waste Watch <http://www.asia3r.net/link/asia-gomiken.html>

### Feature

Network of environmental NGOs who are concerned about waste issues in Asia.

### Structure

Founded in: December, 2005

Participating organizations: The key members are "FoE Japan", "Zero-Waste Society Study Group" and "East Asia Environmental Information Express Messenger". There are also individual members (mainly in the areas around Tokyo, as well as some in the U.S. and Asian countries.)

### Aim & Major activities

Our goal is to stop environmental pollution caused by waste problems in Asia, and to create a zero-waste society through the promotion of 3Rs.

■ Make policy proposals for the revision of "Home Appliance Recycling Act".

In the past, we made policy proposals base on the citizens' opinions we gathered through research and surveys.

■ Offer opinions to the "Recycling Society Planning Subcommittee"

In the past, we called for a decrease in Japan's dependency on foreign countries for waste recycling at the Subcommittee meetings.

### Introduction of Activities

Organize "Asian Citizens' Forum for 3Rs"

We invited environmental NGOs from China and Korea to discuss E-waste issues prior to the Asia 3R Conference in 2006. The declaration summarized through the forum was introduced to the government officials of each country during the Conference.

■ Make proposals for the revision of the "Home Appliance Recycling Act"

For the revision of the "Home Appliance Recycling Act," we conducted interviews and a questionnaire of 100 consumers on the street around Akihabara-station, as well as hearings with officers involved in recycling and re-marketing. The summary of our findings from the interview, the survey, and the hearings were reported to the Council and at a public forum we organized.

■ Observe and state opinions at international conferences on 3Rs.

■ Conduct field surveys on waste disposal, recycling, as well as health impacts of waste in Asia with the help from volunteer members.

### What we expect from an Asian partnership

■ Our goal is to stop health damages and environmental destruction in the processing countries of recycling, with awareness that Japan's recycling policy which is relying on Asian countries is the overseas transfer of hazardous wastes.

To achieve our goal, we anticipate that citizens of the related countries will develop a mutual trust, will work together to seek a solution and will present the solution through related conferences and governments.

We hope to expand our activities to advocate for stronger enforcement of Basel Convention with no further delay, to which the Japanese government is reluctant to commit.

■ To realize a zero-waste society, we are seeking the possibility to collaborate with GAIA (Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives).