

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Division for Sustainable Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
Room DC2-2220, United Nations, New York, N.Y. 10017

07 Feb 2011

Dear Mr. William Merry,

We are pleased to invite you to the **Intersessional Conference on Building Partnerships for Moving towards Zero Waste** which will be held in Tokyo, Japan from 16 to 18 February 2011. This conference will be organized by the Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), in close collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and the Ministry of the Environment Japan and will contribute to the deliberation on the theme of Waste Management at the 19th session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) to be held in May 2011.

CSD-19 will be the policy session where intergovernmental decisions will be made on policy options for overcoming obstacles and challenges while taking into account lessons learned and best practices in relation to the theme. The international conference will build on the outcome and recommendations of the CSD-18 (review session) as well as the "International Consultative Meeting on Expanding Waste Management Services in Developing Countries," held in March 2010 as an intersessional meeting for CSD-18.

The February 2011 conference will bring together relevant stakeholders (including representatives from cities, public waste utilities, private sector, key research and policy institutes, community-managed waste management programmes, and international institutions, among others), to discuss possible policy recommendations that would contribute to expanding waste management services in developing countries. The conference is expected to help identify constraints and obstacles in the implementation of waste management policies, and to explore ways and means in which these stakeholders could partner with each other to strengthen their collaborative efforts to deal with growing waste management challenges in the perspective of ever increasing urbanization and consumption trends.

Air ticket and per diem will be provided for the required days by Ministry of the Environment-Japan, the host, as per their terms and conditions. The Conference Secretariat (MoE-Japan) in Tokyo will follow up with participants regarding travel and accommodation arrangements. In addition, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan will be pleased to issue a separate guarantee letter to all participants in order to obtain the visa for Japan.

We will be grateful if you fill out the attached registration form with the necessary information and return to UNCRD Environment Unit in Nagoya/Japan at environment@uncrd.or.jp (Tel: +81-52-561-9531/382/416; Fax: +81-52-561-9374) no later than **09 Feb 2011**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Onogawa', written over a light-colored background.

Kazunobu Onogawa
Director, UNCRD

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