

## **Asia Green IT Forum 2011 Joint Statement**

Realization of a low-carbon society is a top-priority issue requiring an urgent, global-scale response. IT and electronics technologies stand to contribute substantially to the low-carbon society goal, in part by boosting energy efficiency in IT devices themselves, and also by providing products and solutions that generate greater energy efficiency in all social activities. As a concrete move in that direction, green IT campaigns are gaining momentum around the world, but in Asia in particular, the region's recent remarkable economic development and the accompanying boom in energy consumption position the promotion of green IT as an urgent task.

The Asia Green IT Forum was held for the first time in October 2009, bringing together representatives from seven Asian countries to exchange views toward the realization of a low-carbon society through green IT utilization. At the second meeting in October 2010, 10 Asian countries and regions discussed subsequent progress with their green IT initiatives and other issues, proposing specific cooperative actions.

Efforts arising out of these proposals include highlighting the importance of green IT on occasions such as APEC meetings, conducting exchanges between their respective green IT promotion institutions, and exchanging information through the Forum portal.

On 27 October this year, in response to an offer from Korea, the third Asia Green IT Forum was held here in Seoul. Representatives from 10 Asian countries gathered to engage in vigorous and productive discussion, affirming that Asia should continue to take the lead in promoting green IT as the core of the international green IT movement.

### **Points of Common Understanding**

- Further promoting the introduction of green IT technologies and products

Sharing information on green IT best practices in participating countries and regions has increased interest in the introduction of these, with efforts now underway to boost energy efficiency in a range of areas. Participating countries reaffirmed the importance of promoting further sharing of best practices and the introduction of green IT technologies, products and solutions, as well as of disseminating these internationally.

(In this context, Japan reported that while there had been concern over power supply stability following the Great East Japan Earthquake and the nuclear power plant incident, the dissemination of green IT technologies and products helped usher the country safely through the summer peak power consumption period.)

- Green IT analysis and energy-efficiency indexes for data centers

One effective approach to green IT introduction is to analyze the energy efficiency of existing facilities such as buildings, factories and data centers and apply the optimal best practices. Over the past three years, Japan has been trialing such analyses in Asia. Looking ahead, it will be important that participating countries and regions work to

implement similar green IT analyses alone and in conjunction with each other. Particularly in relation to data centers, which are expected to experience a surge in demand in the coming years, steps need to be taken to reduce the amount of energy consumed in data centers, and the countries involved have been engaged in considerations toward the international standardization of indexes to measure energy efficiency. In Asia too, these indexes will be trialed to support their adoption as international standards.

- Mutual cooperation toward the further dissemination of green IT in Asia

For participating countries and regions to steadily promote further dissemination of green IT, it will be vital that they establish and develop their own promotion mechanisms. To support each other in this endeavor, it will be important to continue exchanging information on green IT initiatives through means such as the Asia Green IT Forum portal. Active exchange and training, etc., among participating countries would also be useful in developing green IT human resources.

Further, we should take advantage of venues such as APEC and other international forum, as well as seminars and exhibitions held by participating countries and regions, to continue working together to communicate as widely as possible the green IT initiatives that we have underway in the Asian region.

- Next steps for the Asia Green IT Forum

The three meetings of the Asia Green IT Forum to date have developed a basic understanding on green IT among participating countries and regions, and mutual green IT exchange is also deepening. Forum participants engaged in vigorous discussion as to how, given this progress, the Asia Green IT Forum should be moved forward to the next stage.

It was decided that the format of an annual meeting would be continued, but that as of the fourth meeting, in order to lighten the financial burden on the host country, invitations will not be issued as in the past, with member countries and regions instead participating at their own initiative.

A number of member countries expressed an interest in hosting the fourth meeting, including a proposal from Korea that it serve as host again next year, and participants welcomed this offer. Japan will continue handling secretariat duties such as maintaining the Forum's portal site. Korea and Japan will coordinate on the details of the fourth Asia Green IT Forum meeting.