# The Green Purchasing Law, and Promoting Green Procurement in Japan

November 2, 2006 Presentation by Hideki Onizaki Ministry of the Environment, Japan

# 1. Law Concerning the Promotion of Eco-Friendly Goods and Services by the State and Other Entities

# **Process for Establishing the Green Purchasing Law**

- 1. At the Earth Summit of 1992, participating countries agreed on Agenda 21, which stresses the importance of Green Purchasing by public organizations to reduce environmental loads.
- 2. As a result of Agenda 21, the Japanese Government took the initiative to promote Green Purchasing.
- 3. The Japanese Government introduced the Green Purchasing legislation to address the issues highlighted in the Rio Declaration, while simultaneously furthering the promotion of Green Purchasing.
- 4. One of the six laws created to establish a recycling-based society, the "Law Concerning the Promotion of Eco-Friendly Goods and Services by the State and Other Entities," was enacted in May 2000.
- 5. The Green Purchasing Law came into effect on April 1, 2001.

# Objectives of the Green Purchasing Law

## **Objectives**

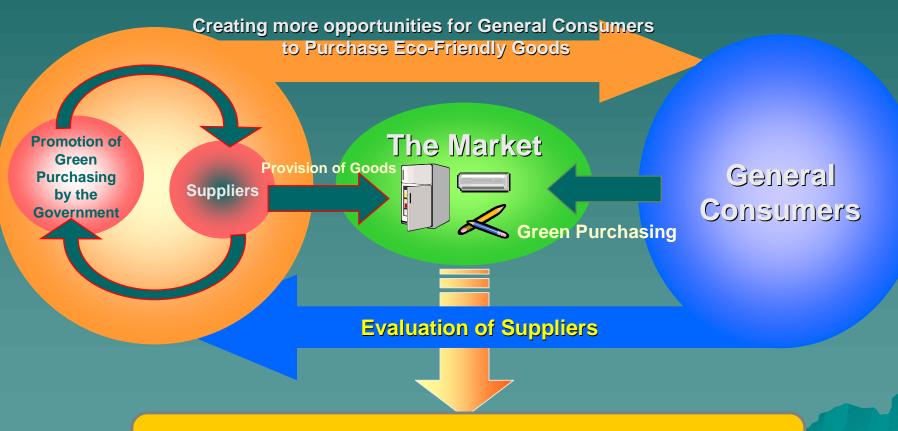
Goods and Services that contribute to reducing Environmental Loads (Eco-Friendly Goods and Services)

- Promoting Greener Purchasing by Public Organizations
- Providing Information on Eco-Friendly Goods and Services



Establishment of an Environmentally Friendly and Sustainable Society

- Encourage suppliers (businesses/private firms) to develop products that contribute to reducing environmental impacts
- · Promote environmental awareness among businesses on corporate activity
- · Influence suppliers through market mechanisms from the demand side



Efforts toward Establishing an Environmentally Friendly and Sustainable Society

# Mechanism of the Green Purchasing Law (1)

### Promotion of Greener Purchasing By Ministries and Agencies

Establishment of the Basic Policy for the Procurement of Eco-Friendly Goods etc.

- Direction for Promoting Green Procurement
- Designated Procurement Items and Evaluation Criteria

### **Ministries and Agencies**

Each Organization creates and publicizes a Procurement Policy

Procurement of goods and services based on Procurement Policies

Report on the results and achievements of Green Procurement

Requests from the Minister of the Environment and other ministries to be taken into account

### **Local Governments**

- > Create or update existing versions of green procurement policies every fiscal year
- > Procure goods and services based on the policies

Ministries and agencies should not increase or adjust their total procurement amount for the reason of implementing this law.

Responsibility for Businesses / Citizens

Consciously purchase eco- friendly goods as much as possible

# Mechanism of the Green Purchasing Law (2)

## Provide Appropriate Information on Environmentally Friendly Goods and Services

### **Manufacturers**

Provide environmental information on their products

# **Environmental Labeling Organizations**

Promote eco-labeling programs
highlighting their scientific analysis,
while complying with international
eco-labeling standards

### **The Government**

- Manage and analyze information provided by manufacturers and environmental labeling organizations
- Provide guidelines on appropriate information methods on eco-friendly goods and services

# Overview of the Basic Policy (1)

### Basic Philosophy for Procurement of Eco-Friendly Items

- Environmental attributes should be considered in addition to price and quality considerations
- Consideration from environmentally diverse viewpoints:
  - Products that contribute to the formation of a socio-economic system through an environmentally sound material cycle
  - Products that contribute to reducing greenhouse gases
- Consider reducing environmental impacts throughout the product's lifecycle, from manufacture to disposal.
- Commit to long-term use, correct utilization, and appropriate disposal of procured goods and services
  - (separation into appropriate waste streams)

# Overview of the Basic Policy (2)

### **Designated Procurement Items and Evaluation Criteria**

- As a general rule, clear numeric data shall be used for selecting designated procurement items.
- If clear numeric criteria cannot be established, attributes that contribute to reducing environmental impact shall be defined as "factors for consideration."
- As needed, these standards can be revised in response to product improvement, market development, and further development of our scientific knowledge of the products.
- When items included in the designated procurement items list become readily available in the marketplace, the item shall be omitted from the listing. (i.e. televisions, calculators)

# Mechanism of the designated procurement items and evaluation criteria

■Basic Policy is revised every year in the following procedures.

Public offering proposal

**Investigative commission (by academic experts)** 

Public comment (period 1 month)

Cabinet decision

■Designated Procurement Items are defined by appropriate

criteria (e.g. clear numeric data).

### **Copier Paper**

### **Evaluation Criteria**

- (1) 100% recycled pulp content and no more than approximately 70% whiteness.
- (2) If coated, the total amount of coating used shall not exceed 12 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

### **Factors for Consideration**

Packaging should be as simple as possible and take into account ease of recycling and reduced environmental impact if incinerated.

Categories	Designated Procurement Items			
Paper (8 Items)	Copier Paper, Printer Paper, Toilet Paper, and 5 other items			
Stationery (79 Items)	Ballpoint Pens, Scissors, Glue, and 76 other items			
Office Furniture (10 Items)	Chairs, Desks, Shelves, and 7 other items			
Office Automation Machines (13 Items)	Copiers, Printers, Fax Machines, and 10 other items			
Home Electronic Appliances (4 Items)	Electric Refrigerators, and 3 other items			
Air Conditioners, etc. (3 Items)	Air Conditioners, Gas Heat Pump Air Conditioners, Space Heaters			
Water Heaters, etc. (4 Items)	Electric Hot Water Supply System, Gas Cooking Appliances, and 2 other items			
Lighting (3 Items)	Fluorescent Lighting Equipment, Fluorescent Light Bulbs, Various Bulb- Shaped Lighting			
Vehicles, etc (5 Items)	Vehicles, ETC Adaptable Car Accessories, VICS Adaptable Car Accessories, Tire, Engine Oil			

Categories	Designated Procurement Items				
Fire Extinguishers (1 Item)	Fire Extinguishers				
Uniforms and Work Clothes (2 Items)	Uniforms, Work Clothes				
Interior Fixtures / Bedding (9 Items)	Curtains, Carpets, Blankets, Comforters, and 6 other items				
Work Gloves (1 Item)	Work Gloves				
Other Fiber Products (3 Items)	Tents, Tarps, Safety Nets				
Facilities (4 Items)	Solar Power Generation Systems, Garbage Disposals, and 2 other items				
Public-Works Projects (58 Items)	Portland Blast Furnace Cement, Pavement Material, Flushable Toilets, Greening of Rooftops, and 54 other items				
Services (7 Items)	Printing, Cafeterias, Automobile Repair, and 4 other items				
Total (17 Categories)	214 Items				

## Confirmation of Legality of Wood and Wood Product

### **G 8 Gleneagles Summit**

Agreement with tackling Government Procurement, Trade Regulation and support wood product countries in G8 Environment and Development Ministers Meeting.

### Japanese Government Climate Change Initiative (extract)

Use Green Purchasing Law and introduce the step of lumber certificated legality and sustainable possibility of Government Procurement, etc.

### Reconsider Basic Policy for Green Purchasing Law

Add the criteria of Legality of Lumber on Basic Policy for Green Purchasing Law (February, 2006)

# 2. Achievements of Green Purchasing

# **Achievements of Green Purchasing**

(1) Progress of the Government's Green Purchasing System

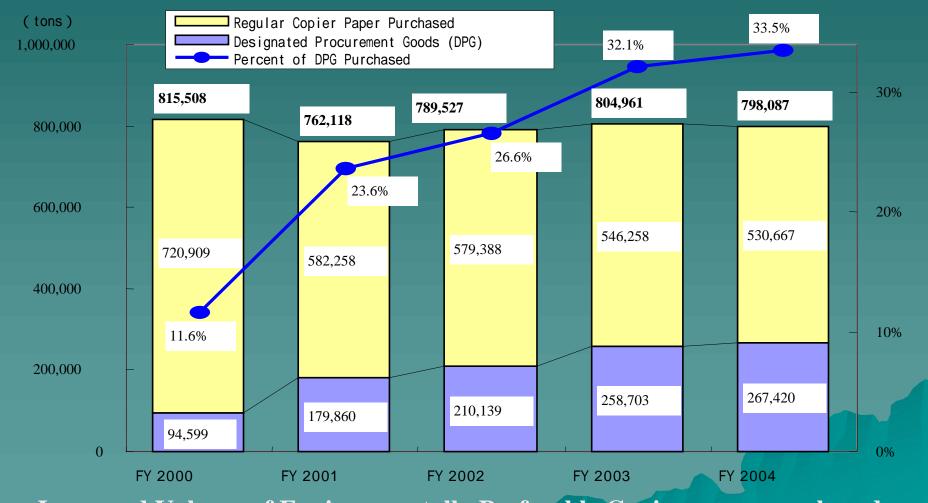
- · ≥ 90% for most kinds of <u>office paper</u>, including <u>copier paper</u>
- · ≥ 95% for most stationery and office equipment

Concerning <u>automobiles</u>, since the end of FY 2004, all official vehicles have been replaced by low emission vehicles.

(Ratio: Designated Procurement Items included in the Government's <u>Procurement in FY 2003 / Total Procurement</u>)

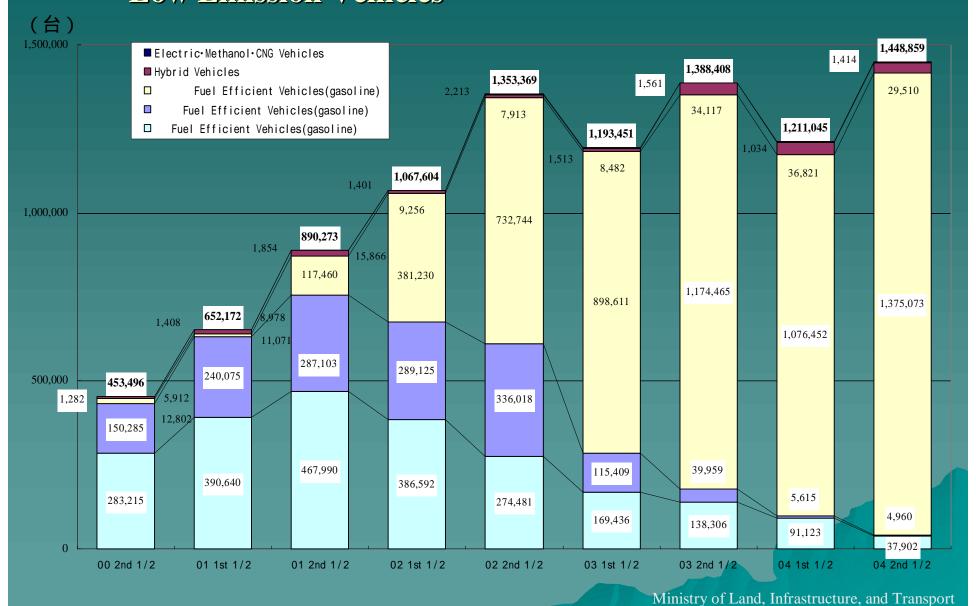
# (2) Quantity of Products with Reduced Environmental Impacts Disseminated in the Market

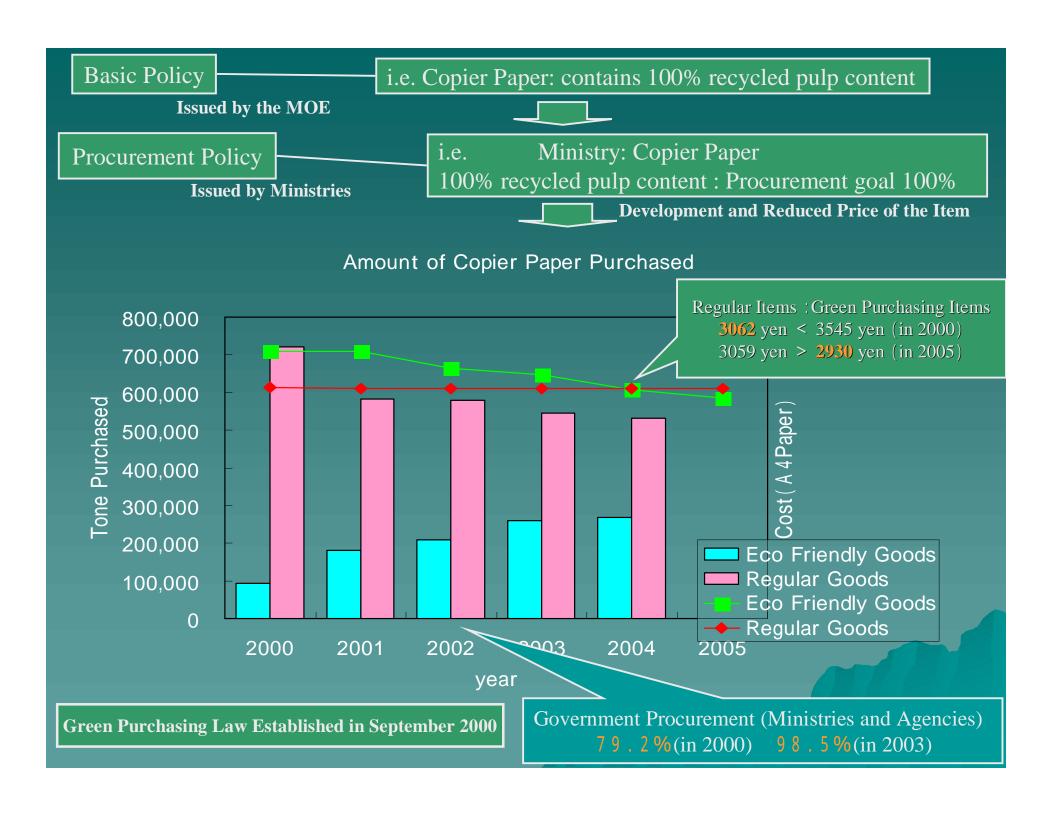
**Copier Paper** 



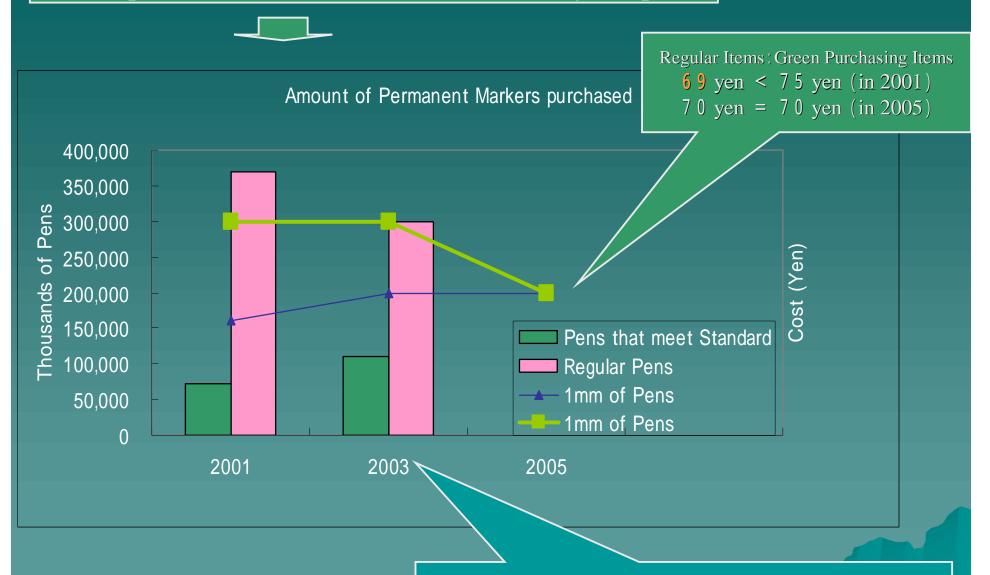
Increased Volume of Environmentally Preferable Copier paper purchased

# **Quantity of Newly Registered Low Emission Vehicles Low Emission Vehicles**





### i.e. Ballpoint Pens: contains more than 40% recycled plastic



Government Procurement (Ministries and Agencies) 94.1% (2001) 98.3% (2003)

# 3. The Green Purchasing Law and Efforts to Prevent the Greenhouse Effect

# (1) The Green Purchasing Law and the Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan

### **Basic Role of the Government**

■ The Government shall take the initiative to implement activities that prevent the exacerbation of the greenhouse effect

The government shall take the initiative to procure environmentally preferable items in order to shift demand towards more eco-friendly goods and services, which will contribute to reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.

# (2) The Green Purchasing Law and the Government Action Plan

Considerations when purchasing or utilizing goods and services

Reduced Environmental Impacts of Low Emission Vehicles

Reduced Environmental Impacts of Energy-Efficient Electronic Appliances

Using Recycled Products such as Recycled Paper

Purchasing and using goods that do not contain Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) but instead contain environmentally preferable substances

# (3) Results from the Government's effort to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions under the Green Purchasing Law

Comparison of CO<sub>2</sub> Emission between 2000 (before Green Purchasing Law) and 2003

	Previous CO2 Emissions Source	Amount of CO2 Emission Prevented (t-CO2)		
Category/Item		Amount Prevented (Yearly)	Estimated Usage (years)	Amount Prevented (Total)
Plastic Office Supplies	Disposal / combustion	761		761
The Can for Blowing Dust Off	Change HFC143a for HFC152a	8,587		8,587
Office Automation Machines	Electricity Usage	265	5	1,325
Home Electronic Appliances	Electricity Usage	339	10	3,395
Air Conditioners	Electricity Usage	250	10	2,495
High-frequency Inverter Lighting Appliance	Electricity Usage	846	10	8,456
Cars	Gasoline combustion	2,483	5	12,415
Solar Power Generation System	Installation process	213	15	3,192
Portland Blast Furnace Cement	Industrial process	1,184		1,184
Total		14,928		41,810

# 4. The Future of Green Purchasing

# (1) Further Development in the Governmental Sector

### Status of Procurement Policies in Local Governments

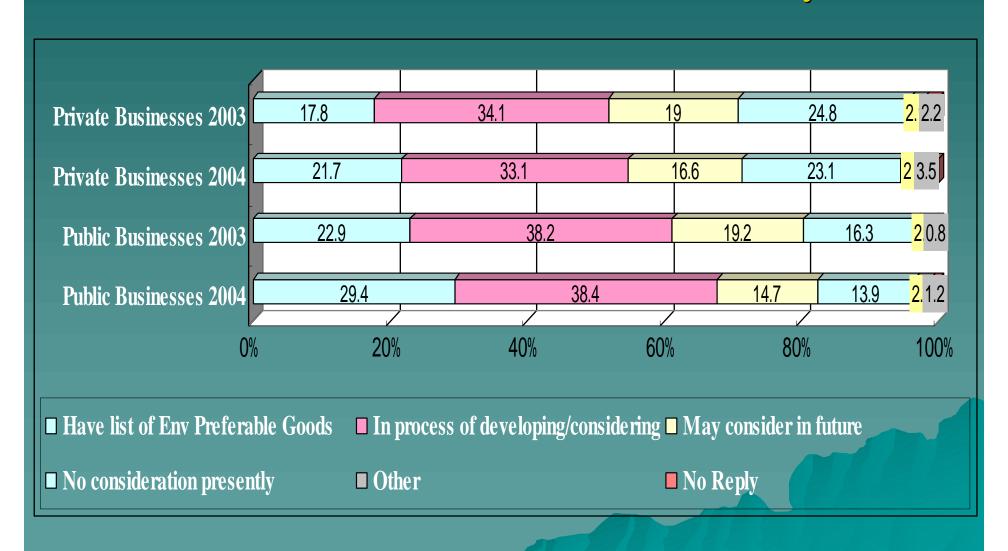
- 47 Prefectures Developed by all Prefectures (in 2006)
- 15 Ordinance-Designated Cities Developed by all Ordinance-Designated Cities (in 2006)
- Districts / Cities Developed by 45.4% (47.0% in 2004)
- Towns/Villages. . Developed by 10.0% (11.1% in 2004).

(2005 Data – taken from a restionnaire on Green Purchasing)

**Promotion for Green Purchasing to Public Sectors** 

# (2) Development in the Private Sector

Efforts of Private Businesses to Purchase Eco-Friendly Goods



# (3) The Ministry of the Environment's Website

### Web pages and links on the Green Purchasing Law

English



### グリーン購入法.net

国等による環境物品等の調達の推進等に関する法律

#### グリーン購入法について

循環型社会の形成のためには、「再生品等の供給面の取組」に加え、「需要面からの取組が重要である」という観点から、平成12年5月に循環型社会形成推進基本法の個別法のひとつとして「国等による環境物品等の調達の推進等に関する法律(グリーン購入法)」が制定されました。

同法は、国等の公的機関が率先して環境物品等(環境負荷低減に資する製品・サービス)の調達を推進するとともに、環境物品等に関する適切が情報提供を促進することにより、需要の転換を図り、持続的発展が可能な社会を構築を推進することを目指しています。また、国等の各機関の取組に関することのほか、地方公共団体、事業者及び国民の責務などについても定めています。

#### **♦ TOPICS**

#### 法律等

グリーン購入法の仕組み など

#### 基本方針

特定調達品目の判断基準 など

#### A&O

よくあるご質問 など

#### 特定調達品目検討

特定調達品目に関する提案募集 など

#### 参考資料

手引き、アンケート調査結果 など

#### その他

違法伐採対策、物品等情報提供 など

### グリーン購入取り組み事例データベース

< ご利用にあたっての留意事項> ※ご利用前に必ずお読み下さい。

### 取り組み情報源 データベース

各団体が自らのホームページで公開しているグリーン購入の取り組みに 関連する情報を購入方針、購入基準、購入実績などを中心に紹介してい ます。情報は、各団体のホームページへリンクしています。

- **1** ) 都道府県(地域順)
- 2) 政令市(地域順)
- 3) 県庁所在市(地域順)
- 4) その他、市区町村(地域順)
- 5) 事業者(50音順)

特徴的な取り組み事例 データベース

http://www.env.go.jp/policy/hozen/green/g-law/index.html

http://www.gpndb.jp/gpn/jirei/

## **Reference Material on Green Purchasing**

**Information on Designated Procurement Items** 

The Green Purchasing Network Website



# Providing Environmental Information on Goods and Services for Consumers

Provide clear environmental information on Goods and Services throughout it's lifecycle - from manufacture to disposal

### **Consumers should:**

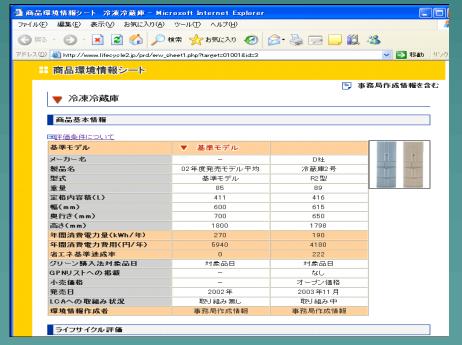
- 'Buy environmentally preferable goods
- · Shift their lifestyle to one that reduces their environmental impacts

### **Businesses should:**

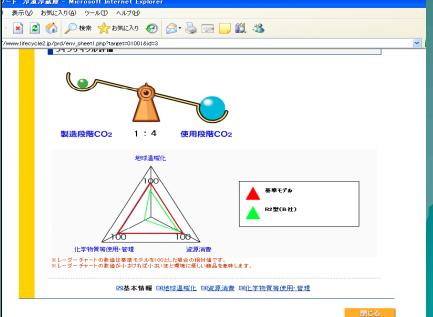
- · Advertise their eco-friendly products
- · Provide incentives to develop new ecofriendly products



### **Basic Information on Products**



### · Assessment of the Product's Lifecycle



# (4) The Work from 2006 onward

### ♦ An Expansion of Items

Reinforcement of the evaluated criteria after investigation the environmental loads in present Designated Procurement Items and Services.

We tried to examine only the documents of suggestion from the Public Businesses as usual, and now we examine new items in our own way, and frame the best criteria each year.

### Setting up Green Purchasing Guideline for Small Local Governments

Set up the guideline (a Plan) within FY2006

Test the guideline (a Plan) in 2007, then set up and distribute before the end of the year

# (5) Future Objectives

### Goal for FY 2010

To systematically implement green purchasing for the following organizations:

- ◆ Government: <u>all local governments</u>
- ◆ Businesses: ~ 50% of Public Companies and ~ 30% of Private Companies

# Thank you

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