



6 June 2008

Bonn

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

I am writing to you on behalf of Climate Action Network International, a network of more than 400 non-governmental organizations worldwide, including seven in your own country.

We welcome your initiative to announce a “Fukuda Vision” to show your leadership, as G8 President towards the Toyako Summit next week.

If we wish to avoid dangerous climate change, the objective of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, it is clear that there is very little time left to act. According to the IPCC, global emissions must peak in the next 10-15 years and decline afterwards, and must be at least halved from 1990 levels by 2050, if we are to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. A 2020 target for deeper reduction with the range of 25-40% from 1990 levels by developed countries is essential to achieve this.

In order to demonstrate Japan’s commitment to tackling climate change, we expect that you will include the following elements in your “Vision”.

- First of all, although we value your willingness to have its own long term target within the range of 60 to 80 % by 2050, we are concerned that these alone will not spur immediate required action to reduce emissions. To demonstrate Japanese leadership, a sense of urgency, based on the science, is crucial. As the host country of the G8 Summit, Japan should state its own mid term goal within the range of 25 to 40 % from 1990 level in the Fukuda vision. We would strongly welcome such a goal.
- Secondly, we would ask you to make it clear that your advocacy of a sectoral approach is not being used as a means to lower the level of ambition of Japan’s mid term goal. Although calculating the reduction potential based on energy indicators may sound fair, we have serious concerns about Japan’s intention. In the March 2008 “Outlook of

energy supply and demand in 2020” issued by the Ministry of Energy, Trade and Industry, it clearly states that even if maximum technology is applied in 2020, Japan’s reduction amount results in only a 4 % reduction compared to 1990. Clearly, there is a significant gap between the result of this calculation and the required science-based emission reduction. Without announcing Japan’s own mid term target within the range of 25 to 40%, Japan cannot show the leadership that it is determined to follow the science.

- Lastly, Japan should show to the world that Japan is committed to meet its Kyoto target, by implementing a domestic Emission Trading Scheme and/or carbon tax without any special conditions for certain sectors.

We look to you to lead the G8 to a successful outcome by showing the Japan is ready to respond to the climate change challenge and by doing so, bring the world one step closer to a successful Copenhagen Agreement.

Peter Bahouth
Director, Unites States Climate Action Network,
on behalf of Climate Action Network International