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**STATEMENT BY DR MASARU TANAKA, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SOLID WASTES AND PUBLIC CLEANSING ASSOCIATION**

**(1) Outline of the ISWA**

ISWA is an independent, nongovernmental, non-profit making organization. Its objective is the maximum exchange of information and experiences worldwide on all aspects of solid waste management and research. ISWA has more than 20 years services since 1970 foundation and 24 national members, 47 sponsoring, 313 associate and 147 individual members. The Japan Waste Management Association (Zenkoku Toshi Seisou Kaigi) is the national member of ISWA and contributing efforts for solving solid waste management problems in the world.

**(2) Some of the ISWA activities**

ISWA organizes conferences and specialized seminars, establishes working groups, and task forces and publishes a journal as well as books, newsletter, and proceedings from professional meetings. The journal is "Waste Management and Research", published quarterly. Proceedings of recent annual meetings, ISWA annual conference in Amsterdam 90 and ISWA annual conference Toronto 91. Since 1972, five quadrennial congresses were held.

**(3) Current topics in the field of waste management**

Solid waste management is one of the basic human needs to be fulfilled for human health. The amount of waste is on the increase. Existing waste disposal facilities cannot cope with the recent increase. Landfill sites are often filled ahead of schedule and other disposal sites must be secured quickly. Most municipal governments, however, find it extremely difficult to obtain new sites. The increase of waste is related to wasteful and destructive consumption of natural resources. Recycling is one way of reducing the amount of refuse that must be disposed of and conservation of natural resources. Other issues are transboundary illegal shipment, and open dumping practice causing environmental risk and human risks.

Under these circumstances, the Japanese Government has passed a law "the Law for Promotion of Utilization of Recyclable Resources" and has submitted an amendment bill of the Waste Disposal and Public Cleansing Law.

**(4) Future activities of ISWA**

The sixth international congress will be held in Madrid, Spain, from the 14th to the 19th June 1992. The seventh international congress is proposed to be held in Yokohama in 1996 by the Japanese ISWA national member.