

National Council for the Environmental Management of the Seto Inland Sea No. 69
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Approach to New Measures for Environmental Management and Creation in the Seto Inland Sea (Response)

Attached please find a report on the Approach to New Measures for Environmental Management and Restoration in the Seto Inland Sea (Recommendations) held by the Council on September 19, 1997 in the fourth session on recommendations.

The Council has pursued discussion of this issue with the aim of suggesting the approach to future policies needed to promote environmental management in the Seto Inland Sea, while keeping in mind the importance of contributing to regional consensus-building efforts.

To achieve these goals, the Planning Committee charged with discussing recommendations recognized the need to reflect in their discussions the views of citizens from all spheres and at all levels regarding the content of the recommendations. From February to May 1998, (1) hearings with relevant government agencies, related organizations and the like were held twice by the Planning Committee; (2) local subcommittee meetings were held at three locations to hear the views of local public organizations, fisheries personnel, NGOs, educated/experienced persons and so on; and (3) views from the general public were solicited by the Secretariat. A draft framework for the Planning Department report was released in October 1998 and the views of citizens from all spheres and at all levels were solicited over a period of one month.

Based on these views, the Planning Department held discussions seven times and summarized the results in a subcommittee report which was discussed and finalized at the general meeting of the Council.