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News Release

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Results of the 14th Annual “Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind”

The Asahi Glass Foundation (Chairman: Hiromichi Seya) has conducted a questionnaire since 1992 asking the opinions of environmental experts in the government and private sectors worldwide regarding various environmental problems and efforts to resolve them. The survey is supervised by Professor Akio Morishima, chairman of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and a director of the Asahi Glass Foundation. We received 312 responses to the questionnaire from within Japan, and 397 responses from 97 countries abroad.

This release summarizes the focal points within this year’s survey results. For all the results and for details, please refer to the Report.

1. Environmental Doomsday Clock (Awareness of the Crisis Facing Human Survival)

- The average time on the environmental doomsday clock for all respondents retreated by three minutes from the previous year to 9:05, which was the average time in 1998 and 2002.
- The average time on the environmental doomsday clock as marked by Japanese respondents was 9:07, comparable to the precious year.
- The average time for overseas respondents was 9:04, a reversal of 5 minutes compared to the previous year.

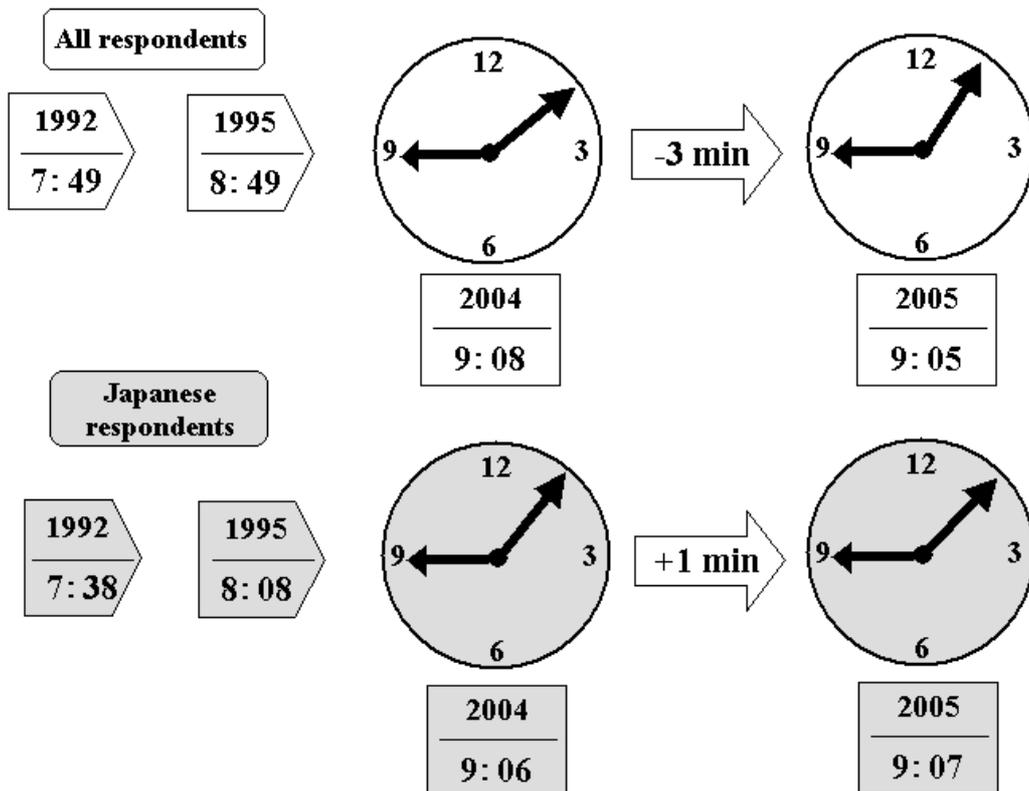


Figure 1. Environmental Doomsday Clock its origin

2. Progress toward Agenda 21

- In the categories of “conservation of forest resources,” “conservation of biodiversity,” “greenhouse gas prevention measures,” “population/poverty problems,” and “lifestyle alteration,” the percentage of respondents who indicated that there had been no progress surpassed those who stated that progress had been made. In particular, with regards to “population/poverty problems,” and “lifestyle alteration,” approximately more than 50% respondents responded that there had been no progress.

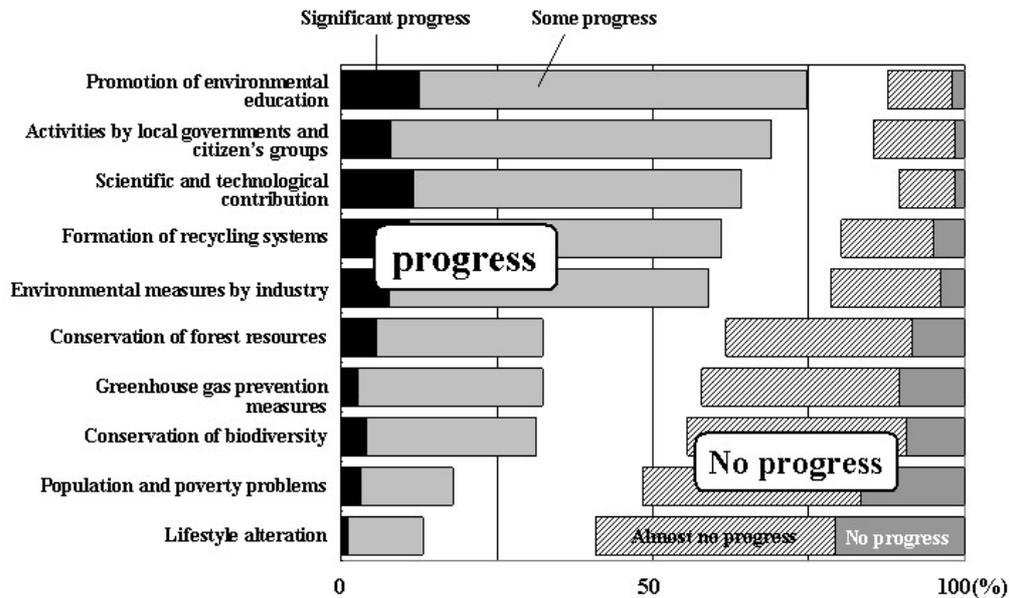


Figure 2. Progress toward Agenda 21

- Responses varied greatly by region for “greenhouse gas prevention measures.” More than 60% of respondents from the United States and Canada, and Oceania reported no progress. These regions include the United States and Australia, which have not ratified the Kyoto Protocol. In contrast, 50% of respondents from Western Europe and the Middle East reported there had been progress, exceeding those who indicated no progress.

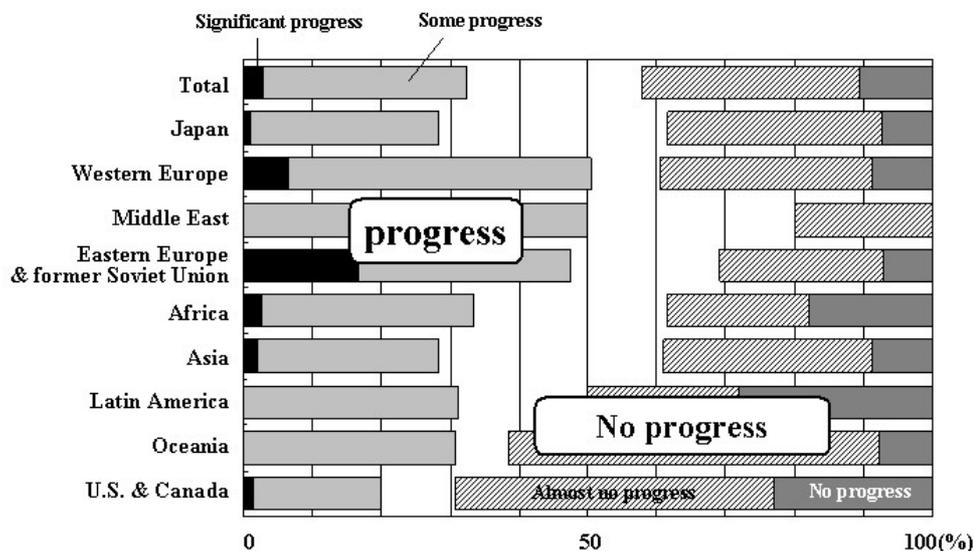


Figure 3. Progress toward Greenhouse Gas Prevention Measures

3. Environmental Problems and Their Priority

- Respondents from most regions cited “climate change including global warming” as the global environmental condition of highest priority
- There was a marked differences in the selection of environmental problems with high priority excluding “climate change including global warming” between developed and developing regions, and also between male and female. While in each comparison the former chose “energy problems” and “population”, the latter chose “poverty” and “preservation and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity.”

Table Environmental Problems and Undertaken on a Global Scale by the Community

Area	1st priority	%	2nd priority	%	3rd priority	%
Total	Global warming	66	Energy	31	Poverty	26
Overseas Total	Global warming	53	Poverty	32	Ecosystem	30
Japan	Global warming	83	Energy	40	Population	28

Area	1st priority	%	2nd priority	%	3rd priority	%
Developed Regions	Global warming	73	Energy	38	Population	26
Developing Regions	Global warming	47	Poverty	34	Ecosystem	30

Gender	1st priority	%	2nd priority	%	3rd priority	%
Male	Global warming	69	Energy	33	Population	26
Female	Global warming	48	Poverty	26	Ecosystem	26

4. The Implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and The Suppression of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- An overwhelming majority of Japanese respondents indicated they evaluated the implementation of the treaty “favorably.”
- There was a small discrepancy, of 12 percentage points, among overseas respondents who evaluated the implementation of the treaty “favorably” from those who evaluated it “unfavorably”
- Regional difference existed in the responses, with more respondents from Oceania, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, and the United States and Canada, evaluating the implementation “unfavorably” than those who evaluated it “favorably.”

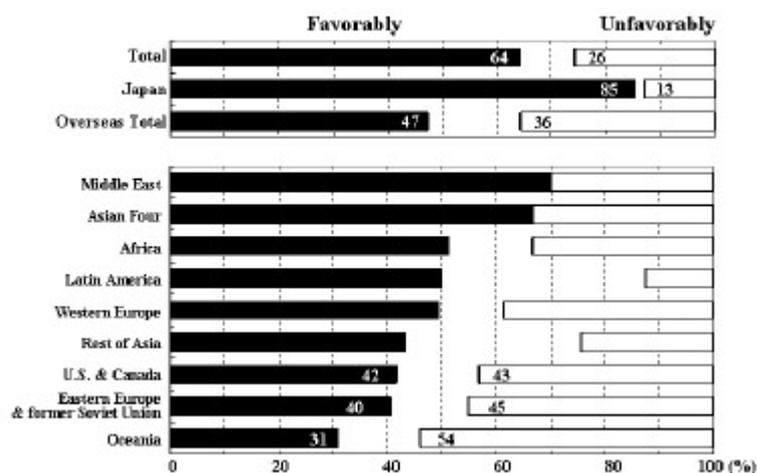


Figure 4. Views The Implementation of the Kyoto Protocol

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