

## Japanese team to undertake study on waste management

By JOE CHAN

THE 18 month study on solid waste management for the Penang and Seberang Prai Municipalities will be carried out by a Japanese study team from next January or February.

The final report, which includes the Master Plan and feasibility study, will be submitted to the Malaysian Government in June 1988.

Presently, a preliminary survey is being conducted by a team of experts despatched by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) led by professor Dr Sachio Naito of Kanto Gakuin University in Japan.

The team yesterday signed an agreement specifying the scope of work for the study with the Malaysian Government, which was represented by Economic Planning Unit's (EPU) deputy Director General Helmi Mohd Noor.

The preliminary study team has gathered vast amounts of data over the past few days and will analyse the present situation over the next two-and-a-half months before the Master Plan takes off, said Dr Naito at a press conference yesterday.

The Master Plan will be formulated over six-and-a-half months and will cover the municipal solid waste management of the two local authorities up until the year 2005.

It will examine in detail how solid waste management may be carried out more efficiently under changing socio-economic conditions.

Dr Naito said the Master Plan could be conducted by a team of Japanese consultants with vast experience, who will be selected by the Japanese Government through an open tender.

The next phase is the feasibility study. Recommendations will be made for the first phase of the Master Plan (1990-1995) with the proposed planning details. This will take another four-and-a-half months, added Dr Naito.

Another member of the team, Dr Masahisa Nakamura of Lake Biwa Research Institute, said Malaysia's current

solid waste management system is more advanced than a few other countries in the region.

"However, there is still room for improvement through increased efficiency in waste collection," he said, adding that the Jica study is the first of its kind to be undertaken in Malaysia.

Some areas that should be polished are the management and administration of the present waste management systems. Some of the "indigenous" methods of waste disposal may also have to be discarded, he said.

Dr Nakamura said one of the major benefits of good solid waste management will be in terms of cost savings, as the expenditure of local authorities on waste management is now 20 to 30 per cent of their budgets.

The Penang and Seberang Prai Municipalities meanwhile are estimated to spend about 30 per cent of their budgets on waste management.

Mr K. Sakurai, Jica expert attached to the Technical Unit, Local Government Division, Ministry of Housing and Local Government, added that local participants will also be involved in the study.

In addition, the Master Plan studies may serve as a model for other local authorities intending to formulate their own plans. This will help them safeguard public health and environment in a most cost effective manner.

He added that the Malaysian Government has made known its commitment to adopt efficient solid waste management and such studies cannot be undertaken without the technical cooperation and assistance of a third party.

The study is funded by Jica, which has so far collaborated with several countries in the formulation of municipal waste management plans for cities such as Bangkok, Seoul and Jakarta.

The two other members of the Jica preliminary study team are Mr Tadayoshi Kawano, Ministry of Health and Welfare, and Mr Tetsu Iwata, Jica.

## STUDY INTO MANAGING SOLID WASTES IN PENANG

THE Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) will carry out an 18-month study on solid waste management in Penang and Perak starting next February.

The study, fully funded by the Japanese Government, will examine in detail how solid waste management can be carried out more efficiently under changing socio-economic conditions.

An agreement on the feasibility study was signed in Kuala Lumpur yesterday by the deputy director-general of the Economic Planning Unit, Enck Helmi Mohamed Noor, and a four-member preliminary study team which arrived in Kuala Lumpur on Oct 30.

The preliminary study team will examine the framework within which the study can be conducted and the scope of work to be done.

Prof Dr Sachiko Naito, leader of the team, said several Japanese consulting firms would be included in the second study team.

He said there were "some possibilities" that local consultants would be included in the study.

A report will be submitted to the Government upon completion of the study in June 1989.

The report will include a master plan, covering municipal solid waste management of the two local authorities of Penang and Seberang Perak, up to the year 2006.

## 日本专家刻在考察

### 栢威海域污染情况

(吉隆坡八日讯) 一个四人日本专家团已对栢城及北海附近海域的海水污染情况进行初步的考察，并将设法解决在这些地区的受污染情况。

这个专家团是由关东大学的内藤幸穗教授率领，团员包括琵琶湖研究所的中村久正博士、厚生省的川野忠良及国际协力事业团的岩田东一。

内藤幸穗教授表

示，日本专家团是在十月二十九日抵达马来西亚，总共在马来西亚进行八天的考察。他和大马的环境保护部总监签署一份合约，以便在日本聘请一个机构，策划一个大蓝图，来改善栢威海域受污染的程度。他说，预料这个日本环境污染控制机构将于明年初到大马，以草拟一份计划书来提交给马来西亚政府。

划书将包括直到公元二〇〇五年的市区废物清理计划。

他说，日本政府将通过日本国际协力事业团派出一个全面研究的机构专家团来进行这方面的的工作。而这个机构专家团最迟将在一九八九年六月完成研究报告，并把它的计划书呈给大马政府。

日本国际协力事业团曾和几个国家合作，以策划诸如曼谷、汉城、亚历山大港和雅加达的废物处理问题。

他表示，通过以前所累积下来的经验，他希望能对栢城及北海地区的废物处理问题作出更大的贡献。





JICA