

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Climate change is a global responsibility. The development of human and the increasing number of people demanding the needs of resources to be produced and processed so that the needs of people all around the world could be met. Unfortunately, what people did by processing and producing goods give an impact to the environment. Industrial complex creates many air pollution as well as land and water pollution. Those activities endangered the continuity and sustainability of the environment also our future generation. The international cooperation made to solve these problems, one of them is Kyoto Protocol, the international environmental regime. Japan as one of the active and prominent actor of this regime has historical background of the environmental problems including energy and pollution. It needs a cooperation of all nations to join this regime in order to achieve the target of this protocol which is reducing green house gases, which are the source of global warming and climate change.

#### **A. Background**

Japan is the archipelago country located in north east of the Pacific Ocean. The location of Japan is quite isolated from many part of the world. It also influences the natural resources in Japan. Most of the natural resources are imported from other countries, such as woods, meats, energy, and other raw

materials. The Japan topography consist of mountain and included in Ring of Fire that resulted in the frequent earthquake and tsunami happen in Japan. Japan is vulnerable with natural disaster.

Japan involvement in the global environmental regime is related to the Japan's foreign policy and its experience in dealing with the environmental problems. Before its involvement in Kyoto Protocol, Japan experienced devastating environment destruction starting from its lost in World War II. Japan needs to rebuild its nation. Japan could build its industrial revolution around 1960s.<sup>1</sup> But, with the industrial development it creates environmental destruction. The historical reports on the climate changes in Japan, as one of the reason of Japan further involvement in the environmental regime, starts in 1970 when the researcher find out the habit of cherry blossoms based on the temperature around it, the snow ratio in the winter, the frozen lakes and river, even the summer temperature is measured by the researcher to find the differences with the modern era Japan.<sup>2</sup> From the findings above, shows that the Japanese researcher regarding climate has already stated there is a change in the temperature. An official at the Japan Meteorological Society (JMA) said that a rise of temperature is one of the key elements prompting cherry trees blossom (telegraph.uk).

From its experience, Japan saw that it needs international cooperation regarding the environmental problems since environment is related not only to

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<sup>1</sup> [Takashi Inoguchi](#), Purnendra Jain, "Japanese Foreign Policy Today", 2000, Palgrave Macmillan

<sup>2</sup> Bruce L. Batten, "Climate Change in Japanese History and Pre History. A Comparative Overview", 2000, Harvard University, Occasional Paper on Japanese Studies, pp. 8-14

the life of human in general but also the sustainable of the environment that contains animal, plants where we, human, take the resources from. As the demand to solve and fight the environmental destruction, the United Nations held the first international forum that discussed the environmental problem located in Stockholm, in 1972 within the United Nation Conference on Human Environment. The UN General Assembly declares climate change a “common humanity concern” and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) created. On the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, the forum calls for the stabilization of Green House Gasses (GHG) emission by 2000 and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) created as a treaty that concentrate on the GHG emission. UNFCCC consist of 196 Parties joined within it and also called as the parent treaty of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

Following the result from the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP) 3, held in Kyoto, another conference of the parties discussed further about reducing the GHG emission. Kyoto Protocol requires the developed countries to reduce carbon emission with certain target for each country. Kyoto Protocol also decided on a GHG emission-trading program and holding meetings in the future to decide penalties for the country who violates the targets and regulation rules of the treaty.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Kyoto Protocol History. Retrieved September 12, 2014 taken from <https://www.mtholyoke.edu/~danov20d/site/history.html>

Kyoto Protocol is based on the common principle but differentiated responsibility that required countries who ratified it to commit reducing the GHG emission include CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFC, PFC, SF<sub>6</sub>, or cooperate in emission-trading. In Kyoto Protocol, countries are divide into several categories, the Annex I refers to developed countries that highest contributor of GHG emission until 1990, Annex II including countries that have to give financial aid to the UNFCCC program and to the Non-Annex countries.<sup>4</sup> Kyoto Protocol seen as an important step of the world effort to fight the climate change, because it becomes the global effort that shows how states interact and cooperate to solve their problems.

Kyoto Protocol has significance historical impact to the involvement of Japan in its first commitment, since the Protocol named after the ancient city in Japan, Kyoto. Japan showed its commitment from the very beginning of the treaties. Japan as one of the active and motor of the Kyoto Protocol has a position regarding the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol. And in this paper, the writer will try to analyze how the policy made by Japan to institutionalize the Kyoto Protocol so that it can be widely accepted international environmental regime.

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<sup>4</sup> List of Annex I Parties to the Convention. Retrieved Accessed September 12, 2014 taken from [http://unfccc.int/parties\\_and\\_observers/parties/annex\\_i/items/2774.php](http://unfccc.int/parties_and_observers/parties/annex_i/items/2774.php)

## **B. Research Question**

In order to achieve the target plan of the Kyoto Protocol, it needs involvement of all states, not only some of them, considering that the environmental problem is not only problems of one state but also global problems. Japan as one of the active actor of the regime already involve in the protocol since its beginning. And the research question based on the background above is:

How did Japan policy in institutionalizing Kyoto Protocol?

## **C. Theoretical Framework**

To explain the policy made by Japan towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol, the writer will use several concepts and model.

### 1. Institutionalization concept

In this research the writer will use the term institutionalization to explain about the Japan's policy towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol. According to [businessdictionary.com](http://www.businessdictionary.com), institutionalization is process which translates an organization's code of conduct, mission, policies, vision, and strategic plans into action guidelines. It aims at integrating fundamental values and objectives into organization's culture structure.<sup>5</sup>

Institutionalization s in this context means to make other countries to be

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<sup>5</sup> Institutionalization Concept. Retrieved September 12, 2014. Taken from <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/institutionalization.html>

involved and uphold the Kyoto Protocol treaties, or in other words is to increase the number of country who ratified the treaties. In this thesis, the writer will try to elaborate this concept to explain Japan involvement in the Kyoto Protocol and how the Japanese decide something in order to increase the number of countries involve and responsible in the treaties.

Furthermore, the writer will use the operational of institutionalization concept by Samuel Huntington that the idea within institution has three requirements. They are (1) The adaptability, which means that the idea is dynamic and flexible to the current situation, (2) Reprogram ability, an idea could always response to the policy or progressive action, and (3) Longevity, idea could last to run its function in a long period of time.<sup>6</sup>

## 2. International regime concept and theory

The concept of international regime that the writer will use to analyze the problems is from Stephen Krasner essay on the issue of International regime. Based on Krasner, regimes are implicit or explicit principles, norms, and decision-making procedures around which actors' expectations centralized in international relations area.<sup>7</sup> In this explanation of the international regimes concept, principles are beliefs of fact, causation, and

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<sup>6</sup> B. Guy Peters Jon Pierre, "Handbook of Public Administration", 2003, SAGE, page 542

<sup>7</sup> Andreas Hasenclever, "Theories of International Regimes," 1997, Cambridge University Press, p. 9

rectitude. And norms are standards of behavior defined in terms of rights and obligations, while a rule is specific prescriptions of an action.<sup>8</sup>

International regimes are considered as social institutions which created as a respond to the demand for governance related to certain issues that arise in the social situation which is anarchy where it lacks central public authority.<sup>9</sup> It means that the Kyoto Protocol as the international environmental regimes created as the demand of countries regarding the global issue of climate change and global warming that needs the centralize public authority to look over the activities of countries that damaging the environment. In which the environmental problem is not only the problem of certain countries, but all of the countries in the world.

Using the international regime concept to explain about the existence of Kyoto Protocol as the international environment regime, this has a major impact towards the effort of countries to solve the environmental issues, and especially to reduce the GHG that caused global warming and climate change.

Krasner (1983) stated that basically, the international regime theories can be divided into three schools of thoughts:

a. Realist

Realist school in international regime mainly focused on the power and called power-based regime theories. It is stress the power as the variable

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<sup>8</sup> Stephen D. Krasner, "International Regimes," 1983, Cornell University Press, p. 2

<sup>9</sup> Helmut Breitmeier, Oran R. Young, and Michael Zürn, "Analyzing International Environment Regimes From Case Study to Database," 2006, MIT Press, p. 3

to explain states involvement in cooperation. Classic example of this theory is theory of hegemonic stability that links to the existence of international institution to a unipolar the power setting in given situation, example such as Nuclear Proliferation Treaty.

b. Neo-liberal

The Neo-liberal focuses on the collection of the interest, as it is an interest-based regime theory. This school emphasize on the role of international regime to help countries to achieve common interests. The neoliberal is quite drawn to the economical theories of institution which considering the costs. Those countries interest become the reason behind the formation and staying force for the regime.

c. Cognitive

The cognitive perspective centralized the variable into the knowledge dynamics, communication, and identities. This regime theory focused on the origins of the interests as perceived by countries. They seen that the international regime as well as the international phenomena is not because the given identities and interests of the actors, like what the realist and neo-liberal seen.

The cognitive divided into two, weak and strong cognitive. Weak cognitive stated that in the international relations the demands of regime depends on actors' perception upon the problems, which they believed produced by the actor normative belief. Furthermore, it seems that the



weak cognitive complementary the interest-based theory, so the weak cognitive still believe that the actor are rational actor driven to maximize its gain.

While, the strong cognitive accepted the international society that structure by an institutions. Where, the institutions here are cognitive entities with the same expectations, beliefs of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.

	<b>Realism</b>	<b>Neo-Liberalism</b>	<b>Cognitive</b>
Central Variable	Power	Interest	Knowledge
“Institutionalism”	Weak	Medium	Strong
Meta-theoretical orientation	Rationalistic	Rationalistic	Sociological
Behavioral Model	Concerned with relative gains	Absolute gain maximizer	Role-player

**Figure 1. 1 School of Thoughts in the Study of International Regimes<sup>10</sup>**

In this research the writer will specific use one of the schools of thought in international regime theory which is cognitive. As explained earlier about the cognitive regime theories, the writer will use it to explain the policy made by Japan to institutionalize the regime by using the dynamic of knowledge as the cognitive approaches stated. Japan mobilizes the ideas,

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<sup>10</sup> Stephen D. Krasner, “International Regimes,” 1983, London: Cornell University Press, p. 6

norms from Kyoto Protocol to share the same burden to the environmental issues and threats. So that by using the regime, the problem could be solved collectively. The origin of the interest of Japan by involving and actively upholding the regime is because the knowledge and technologies even experience which Japan perceived regarding the issue of climate change.

### 3. Rational Actor Model

Rational Actor Model basic assumption is that countries are considered as an actor that try to maximize its achievement of their goals or aims based on rational calculation in the global political situation.<sup>11</sup> This model gives many assumptions towards the action of countries.

There are several assumptions of this model, first, the countries act as actor that have goals and objectives. Second, the countries have alternative options regarding their goals. Based on rational actor model, countries measure and calculate any consequences of their action.<sup>12</sup> By using this model, the writer will try to elaborate the decisions taken by Japan towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol by seeing the cost-benefits for Japan by joining the treaties and actively involved in it. This model will be used to give brief explanation about the reason of Japan active role and involvement in the Kyoto Protocol, especially in its institutionalization.

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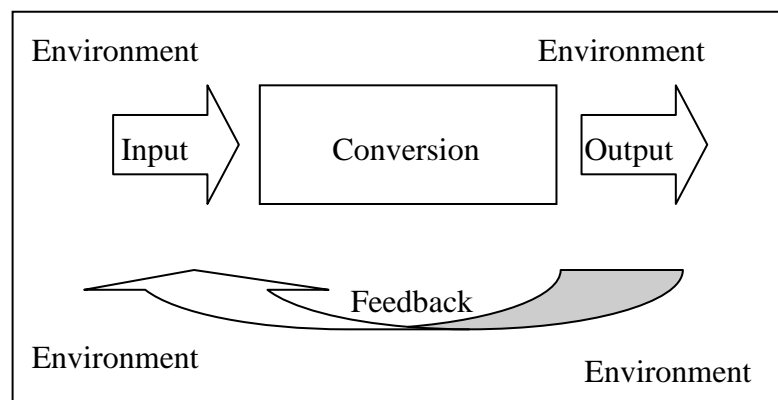
<sup>11</sup> Lloyd Jensen, "Explaining Foreign Policy," 1982, New Jersey, Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, p.5.

<sup>12</sup> Eric Swanson, "The Rational Actor Model," n.d.

#### 4. Decision Making Process

Decision making process by David Easton stated that the political system consist of input, conversion, and output. The input of political system consists of demand and support from the political environment, while the output is the decision or policy as the result of the conversion process in the political system. In the conversion part, it consists of the decision maker or parliament discussing about the demand from the political environment. Decision making process model is use in this research to understand the policy made by Japan within the countries as the impact of its commitment to the Kyoto Protocol.

At the figure below, it is seen how each part of political system interacts and works in a system.



## Figure 1.2 Decision Making Process by David Easton<sup>13</sup>

### D. Hypothesis

From the background, research question, and the theoretical framework, the writer will try to draw some hypotheses from the question how Japan policy to institutionalize Kyoto Protocol:

1. Japan involvement in the international community in order to solve the environmental problems is because of two factors, first the environmental problems dealt by Japan in the past and second the impact of climate change to Japan's economy.
2. Japan policy towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol by using the technology and knowledge they have. Japan policies mobilize the idea of common responsibility to the environmental problems through the knowledge and technology own by Japan in order to get the ideas adapt to the recent situation, this idea could response to the policy made by the actor, and the idea could last in a long period of time.
3. Climate change as Japan policy in institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol and its involvement in the effort to solve environmental problems.

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<sup>13</sup> David Easton, "The Political System: An Inquiry into the State of Political Science," 1953, The Academy of Political Science

### **E. Objectives of the Research**

The objectives of this research are;

- 1) To fulfill the requirement in obtaining the undergraduate degree in International Relations major of Faculty of Social Sciences and Political Sciences of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.
- 2) To understand the international environmental regime role in the effort to fight the climate change.
- 3) To understand the policy made by Japan towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol through the cognitive point of view.

### **F. Range of the Research**

The research focuses on the Japanese policy towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol within the first commitment from 1997 when Kyoto Protocol created in Kyoto, Japan to 2012 when the first commitment of Kyoto Protocol ended.

## **G. Research Methods**

The research applies deductive method where the theoretical framework and approaches examine first then after that the hypothesis could be drawn. The hypothesis above will be proven through data finding and analysis of the fact related to the theoretical framework used.

The data collecting method is library research in which the data are secondary source. All the data are taken from books, scientific papers, journals, articles and electronic books and other relevant data. All the data then later analyzed using the theories determined before.

## **H. Systematic Writing**

Chapter I, the writer will give a brief explanation of the paper, explaining the background of the research and research question. The writer also explaina the theoretical framework, hypothesis, objectives of the research, range of the research, methods, and systematic writing is also written on this chapter.

Chapter II will explain about Japan environmental foreign policy before Kyoto Protocol and its position in Kyoto Protocol.

Chapter III will elaborate the brief history of Kyoto Protocol and its position as the international environment regime.

Chapter IV is explaining the policy made by Japan towards the institutionalization of Kyoto Protocol

Chapter V is the conclusion from chapter I to IV.