

The United States and Japan will work constructively with our international partners, in particular the major energy consuming nations, to promote the commercialization of advanced clean energy technologies. In this regard, we will also use the G8, the UNFCCC, the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, the International Energy Agency, APEC, the Commission of Sustainable Development, and other multilateral partnerships. We reaffirm the goals of the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle (3R) Initiative set at the G8 Summit at Sea Island in 2004. This includes the reduction of barriers to the international flow of goods and materials for recycling and remanufacturing, recycled and remanufactured products, and cleaner, more efficient technologies, consistent with existing environmental and trade obligations and frameworks. We also note that a report on the Gleneagles Dialogue on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development will be received at the G8 summit meeting to be hosted by Japan in 2008.

We will also endeavor under the Montreal Protocol to ensure the recovery of the ozone layer to pre-1980 levels by accelerating the phase-out of HCFCs in a way that supports energy efficiency and climate change objectives. We will continue to exercise leadership in the development of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).

The United States and Japan recognize the value of our bilateral High-Level Consultations on Climate Change and will enhance, strengthen, and streamline that dialogue. The United States will send a delegation of senior-level officials to Japan before the G8 Summit in June to discuss further implementation of this statement.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Statement on North Korea Freedom Week

April 27, 2007

I send greetings to all those observing North Korea Freedom Week. Those living in North Korea regrettably know firsthand the meaning of deprivation of freedom. I

have met in the Oval Office with some of the courageous few who have managed to escape from the country. I have heard firsthand accounts of their suffering in North Korea and of their dangerous journeys to freedom. And I have seen how they now live in freedom's light. We will continue to strengthen our commitment to bring freedom to all repressed peoples. I believe the 21st century will be freedom's century for all Koreans. One day every citizen of that peninsula will live in dignity, freedom, and prosperity at home and in peace with their neighbors abroad. Until that day comes, we will not rest in our efforts to support the North Korean people as they strive to achieve the rights and freedoms to which they are entitled as human beings.

Proclamation 8134—National Charter Schools Week, 2007

April 27, 2007

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Across our country, charter schools are providing quality education for America's students. During National Charter Schools Week, we recognize the important contributions of charter schools and underscore our commitment to ensuring that all children receive the education they need to lead lives of purpose and success.

Charter schools are public schools that provide families with a valuable educational alternative. Because they are not bound by many regulatory requirements, charter schools have the flexibility to innovate in ways that will best meet students' academic needs. Today, there are about 4,000 charter schools in 40 States and the District of Columbia helping more than one million students realize their full potential.

My Administration is dedicated to providing parents with more choices so that their children will have the best opportunity to gain the skills necessary to compete and succeed in the global economy. Through the No Child Left Behind Act, we are setting high standards, expanding parents' options, and