



Maho Yao
Manager, CPA
AZSA Sustainability
Co., Ltd.

In this *Sustainability Report 2005*, after the Interview with the President, readers can see *New Frontier 2008*, JR East's new medium-term business plan, which contains the fiscal 2008 targets for the Group Policies. This is commendable in that it includes the social dimension in the medium-term targets.

In addition, the Highlights Section under "Our Aim: Ultimate Safety," explains JR East's approach to safety and also mentions the medium-term plan.

Regarding environmental conservation activities, the plan aims for further improvements and sets new targets for 2008 for the *entire* JR East Group. This shows that the JR East Group is working together as one cohesive group.

These aspects mean that readers can sense the forward-looking perspective of *Sustainability Report 2005*, and that this is not a report merely on the past.

Regarding environmental accounting in the context of environmental initiatives, it would be worthwhile to add more information about safety, another important pillar – including how much is being spent on what kind of activities, in order to achieve which targets.

Future Prospects

Among the 11 environmental goals to be achieved by the end of fiscal 2005, six were achieved at the end of fiscal 2003. When it later became clear that we were likely to achieve the remaining targets by the end of fiscal 2005, we established new environmental goals for fiscal 2008, this time incorporating the entire JR East Group. Working together as one corporate group, we will move forward to promote environmental management and aim to achieve these goals.

When humanity seeks harmony with the global environment, I believe the role of railways is important – due to their relatively low environmental impacts. But it is also important for the JR East Group to fulfill its corporate social responsibility, by providing safe and reliable transportation services, and playing a part in the prosperity of local communities by creating new value. The JR East Group will continue to promote its social and environmental activities to help realize a sustainable society.



Toru Owada
Director and
General Manager
Management Planning
Department