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-Essay-

Life below water

Nowadays, issues about water resource¹ are raising in many countries. Because over 90% of water resources come from oceans and seas, we should probably be considering the oceans and seas the most. One of the big issues about oceans and seas is preventing and reducing pollution of them. There are some points we should consider for keeping our oceans and seas from polluting.

Firstly, we should regard the problem as an international problem. A sea or an ocean is surrounded by several countries and it can be divided territorially. However, the ecosystem of a sea cannot be divided. Ecosystem acts at once. The adjacent countries should work together to maintain the condition of a sea or an ocean. For example, South Korea, North Korea, Japan and Russia are within a large sea which we call the East sea. There are some territorial problems between South Korea and Japan, also between Russia and Japan. Moreover, South Korea and North Korea have not reached the termination of the war. Because of these reasons, these countries have not been surely cooperating in research of the East sea. Recently, political conflicts between South Korea and Japan are growing. It might not be easy to reach the point of the four countries working together to make prevent the pollution of East sea.

Another point is how we will control the harvesting and overfishing. The ecosystem of a sea or an ocean is maintained by the enough population of each marine lives. Because of the climate change accompanied by global warming, ecosystem of seas and oceans are changing. Some creatures are breeding too much while some creatures are in danger. In addition, people who are not aware of these changes keep their fishery. This can eventually cause extinction of some species. For example, pollock was a popular fish few years ago in South Korea. However, we can hardly purchase the South Korean pollock nowadays. Meeting these problems, we should regulate harvesting and overfishing marine lives.

Partnerships for the Goals

Sustainable development cannot be accomplished alone by a country. Many countries rely on other countries. There are some resources that cannot be produced in some countries like oil while some products can only be manufactured in a particular country because they require cutting-edge

technologies. Therefore, international cooperation is needed to achieve the sustainable development goals.

To successfully maintain international cooperation for sustainable development, we should promote private-public partnership. There are limits if the work is done only by the government. The keynote of government changes as the government changes. Political relationships between countries can change. Because of these reasons public way alone is unstable to keep the cooperation for sustainable development. Therefore, private interchange should also be promoted. Public-private partnership is important. It dramatically increases the probability of successfully accomplishing the sustainable development goals.

Meanwhile, growing coherence in policy about sustainable development is another point. As I mentioned above, policy of a country might change. Especially, when the regime change occurs, the policy direction sharply changes. In this case, policy about sustainable development can also change. However, it is not desirable to frequently changing the policy. It will make other countries uncertain about international cooperation. Therefore, it is better to form an independent organization for sustainable development that the policy on sustainable development can keep its own way.