

Gist of the Presentation of Ambassador Nishimura

At The Seminar of Government Experts

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It is a great pleasure for us to have gathered here today for this seminar with participants from a total of xx countries.

First of all, Co-Chairs, I would like to express my disposition to work with you and with all participating delegations in a most cooperative way so that this unique opportunity be a success.

Yet, I must also say that while we joined this seminar with a great deal of expectations, I must caution that we must be realistic as to the outcome of this seminar.

This is going to be the first of many meetings and seminars ahead. Only further down the road, can we assess the value of our work.

Having said that, and in view of time constraint, let me quickly touch upon some key points of Japan's Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan.

Upon entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, the GOJ decided on a new implementation plan on April 28, recognizing that the Kyoto Protocol is an important step towards long-term global action.

Basically, what we put forward in this plan is to make sure that we achieve our goal of a 6% reduction through a huge package of myriad measures, through a nation-wide mobilization of all actors and stakeholders, involving national and local governments, local communities, households and ordinary citizens, business and organizations of all sorts.

As you know, Mr. Chair, Japan has spearheaded energy conservation and energy efficiency for long time. We will do this more vigorously.

Japan has been mainstreaming energy saving life-styles and has been heading towards a low carbon society. We will certainly continue this.

Japan has spearheaded science and technology for a long time. We will also do this more energetically.

We have always been the world's front runner in supplying the global market with such key technologies as hybrid cars.

And, we are going to achieve all these objectives so as to ensure a genuine win-win situation between economic growth and environment.

With this implementation plan in order, we are sure we can achieve our target. We will achieve it by monitoring our performance closely and adopting new measures if needed.

Let me now turn to the next item, which addresses the task ahead of us.

While, as I said earlier, I am very cautious as to the outcome of this meeting, from my perspective, this is an important occasion for all of us to recall some hard-pressed truths on the issue in front of us.

--- First, scientific facts compel each passing day and the threat of climate change is real.

---And then, a delay in action would incur more damage and more burdens.

---On this subject, technical innovation is the key. Massive investment on technology and its transfer and diffusion is increasingly needed.

---And lastly, there is no denying, a widely shared perception is emerging that calls for an effective global action in the soon coming post-Kyoto era.

In short, we need to move, move forward and move forward diligently. For that, we seek dialogue. We seek a frank and free flowing dialogue. For that we are here today.

But this dialogue must be a new dialogue. In our new dialogue, we should be less dogmatic and more pragmatic. It should be more pragmatic based on reality . It should be based on visions rather than fears.

In essence, we have to have a whole new paradigm for the battle against climate change. It must be positivist, encouraging and enabling, caring and truly cooperative. We should be more encouraging and enabling rather than simply imposing cap and punishing if one fails. It must attend to each individual's particular situations.

Therefore, a new dialogue must focus on how best the

international community as a whole can effectively combat climate change, reduce green house gases and chart a road-map to a low carbon society. For this purpose, global participation in mitigation and adaptation with the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities” is essential.

It must, therefore, focus on how all countries can benefit from being part of this new global agenda, how countries should not lose by joining this battle.

All this means that the agenda must be essentially an agenda of sustainable development, feasible, beneficial, cost-effective and truly effective for attaining our common goal.

Before I finish my presentation, let me illustrate some of our basic ideas for our task ahead.

(1)---First, a new agenda must seek to mainstream the ultimate

objective of the UNFCCC as spelled out in its art.2.

And this implies for us to have a longer-term perspective rather than a very short term perspective.

And this long-term focus is very important because our aim is not just to reduce those gases, but to build a whole new society of carbon free sustainability.

(2)---Secondly, a new agenda must make sure that achieving targets, whatever they may be, results in more development, more economic opportunities, and more social welfare.

---and a new agenda mustn't punish those who genuinely make efforts but rather reward them with help and assistance, with information and know-how, and with credits and facilities. International cooperation for that purpose certainly has to be further strengthened. For the battle to be won, this must

essentially be an enabling institution rather than a punitive mechanism.

(3)---Thirdly, a new agenda must encourage massive international investment on science and technology including those for substantial energy saving. And we must encourage and reward such investment and its transfer to the needed. To create business incentive, institutional reform of CDM as well as promotion of current CDM is important.

(4)Finally, adaptation measures must be further promoted, led by ownership and country-driven initiatives. The current joint effort on the Buenos Aires Programme of Work on Adaptation and Response Measures is expected to pave the ground for long-term actions.

Mr. Chair, thank you for allowing me to make this presentation. I hope this will contribute to our deliberations. Thank you.