

# **Japan's National Statement**

## **by Yoshiaki HARADA, Minister of the Environment**

- Mr. President, Honorable Ministers, Distinguished Delegates,
- First of all, allow me to congratulate the President of COP24, Mr. Michel Kurtyka, and express my appreciation for his leadership. I also deeply thank the Republic of Poland for hosting this critically important meeting for all.

*(Basic Attitude)*

- As indicated by the latest scientific findings, the whole world needs to take more robust actions in order to achieve the 2-degree goal and pursue efforts toward the 1.5-degree goal. Therefore, we need action now to complete the Paris Agreement Work Programme. We highlight special importance on the 3 items; first information necessary to allow NDCs to be fully understood, and second, a common transparency framework allowing flexibility for those developing country Parties that need it in light of their capacity.

Thirdly, market mechanism is an essential element of the Katowice Rulebook to raise mitigation ambition. We must not leave the Article 6 as the “an orphan of Katowice.”

To this end, Japan proactively contributes to negotiations and leads the world in decarbonization with our advanced technology and scientific knowledge.

- Today, climate actions are no longer costs, but rather, a source of competitiveness. As the presidency of the G20 in 2019, Japan will become a model for the world in the achievement of a virtuous cycle between the environment and growth. Aiming to achieve decarbonization as well as the SDGs, Japan has developed a future vision called "Circulating and Ecological Economies - localizing SDGs." Japan will build self-reliant and decentralized communities, while ensuring a high quality of life for the future and a shift to a sustainable society.

*(Contribution to the World)*

- We will continue to support all the parties to be on board to tackle climate change with finance, capacity building and technology development and transfer. We will also steadily fulfill the pledge of 1.3 trillion yen in financial support in 2020.
- The GCF plays a particularly important role for the operationalization of Paris Agreement. We welcome the decision on the commencement of the GCF replenishment process. Also, we have nominated Mr. Kenichi SUGANUMA, Ambassador, Representative of the Government of Japan for Climate Change as a candidate for the next

Executive Director of the GCF, which is the manifestation of our commitment to the strong engagement with the GCF.

- Transparency is key for the Paris Agreement implementation. Japan successfully launched the GHG observing satellite “GOSAT-2” this October. GOSAT-2 has the world’s first function for measuring anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and contributes to improvement in the accuracy of GHG inventories.
- We welcome the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C. Japan is going to host the 49th session of the IPCC Plenary in Kyoto next year.
- Japan will also support developing countries in adaptation plans and their implementation, and contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by promoting the Satoyama Initiative.
- On mitigation, Japan disseminates our advanced technologies through the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) for facilitating decarbonization business.

*(Japan’s Actions: Japanese Emission Reduction Goal)*

- According to the latest figures of 2017, Japan has been reducing GHG emissions for recent consecutive 4 years. Japan is steadily implementing measures to achieve 26% GHG emissions reduction by 2030, and aims to achieve 80% reduction of GHGs by 2050 as a long-term target while pursuing both the promotion of climate change

actions and economic growth. Japan will formulate a long-term low GHG emission development strategy as a growth strategy.

- Japan will promote innovations and green finance, and mainstream ESG finance for decarbonization across all sectors, including vehicles, houses and buildings. We are also looking at establishing a hydrogen society, and making renewable energy the major power source.
- Along with addressing the amendment of the Montreal Protocol, we proactively implement measures to reduce HFC emissions.

*(Lastly)*

- To achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, we must take actions immediately. Let us tackle this momentous challenge for humankind together.