COP27: Global Climate Action High-Level Event Japan

- Good afternoon. I am Yoshihiro Mizutani from Ministry of the Environment in Japan.
- I would like to express my sincere appreciation to UNFCCC climate champion for organizing this event focusing on no-state actors.
- On behalf of Ministry of the Environment, Japan, I would like to say a few words from national government perspective working closely with subnational government.
- Despite current climate and energy crisis, losing momentum on the path to carbon neutrality is not an option.
- The latest IPCC report highlighted that cities account for approximately 70% of global GHG emissions.
- Cities are standing at the frontline of concrete actions against climate change and towards decarbonization.
- "The Glasgow Climate Pact", adopted at COP26 last year, clearly stated that local governments play an important role in achieving the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.
- Japan strongly believes that local governments are one of the most important actors.
- We have been working with local governments in the transition toward a carbon-neutral cities while revitalizing local economy and well-being.
- As a concrete step, Japan will designate one hundred or more "Decarbonization Leading Areas" which strive to realize carbon neutrality by 2030, 20 years ahead of national target year of

2050.

- Demonstrated best practices in these areas are expected to be replicated across the country and beyond the boarder through international city-to-city collaboration.
- Japan will strengthen comprehensive collaboration with stakeholders both domestically and internationally to meet its own decarbonization targets while also contributing to its partners in achieving their targets.
- The decarbonization of subnational is a significant challenge for Japan and the world, but we are determined to make it happen and show our leading models to the world in this critical decade.
- In order for achieve it, I hope to expand multi-level cooperation across the world.
- Thank you very much for your kind attention.