

## Position Statement on Japan's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (JCLP) is a coalition of 126 corporations across various industries that recognize the grave threat that climate change poses to business as well as to social stability, and are committed to the zero-carbon transition.

Under the Paris Agreement, the international community is committed to keeping the global temperature rise well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C as targets, to avert widespread damage due to climate change. Furthermore, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has shown that the damage at 2°C is greater than expected, and that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require reaching net-zero emissions globally by 2050. In this context, the signatory states are drawing up long-term strategies, as well as reviewing their medium-term emissions targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 with a view to ratchet up their ambition, which is now the paramount issue in implementing the Paris Agreement.

Japan has also set its long-term growth strategy in June 2019, stating its aim to “reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions as early as possible in the second half of this century”<sup>1</sup>. With its advanced technological capabilities and other strengths, Japan is indeed capable of leading the world in creating a decarbonized society, and doing so ahead of other countries will enhance its international competitiveness and provide business opportunities to Japanese companies.

For Japan's early achievement of the net-zero emissions goal and to encourage its demonstration of leadership in ratcheting up NDCs, JCLP expresses its position on Japan's NDC as follows.

- Based on the latest scientific findings by the IPCC, Japan's NDC should be ambitiously raised to correspond to the 1.5°C target<sup>2</sup> in order to avoid dangerous climate change.
- In light of the fact that climate change impacts are becoming more severe and the international

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<sup>1</sup> Long-Term Strategy under the Paris Agreement was approved by Japan's Cabinet on June 11, 2019. JCLP had issued two statements regarding this strategy.

- Recommendations for Japan's Long-Term Growth Strategy under the Paris Agreement, released on November 30, 2018 (<https://japan-clp.jp/archives/3462>)
- Position Statement on Japan's Long-Term Growth Strategy Based on Recommendations of the High-Level Meetings for Developing the Long-Term Strategy under the Paris Agreement, released on April 23, 2019 (<https://japan-clp.jp/archives/896> in Japanese)

<sup>2</sup> In May 2015, JCLP proposed a 36% cut from 2005 levels (37.3% cut from 2013 levels) as the recommended target for Japan, considering strategy continuity with the 2°C target, Japan's responsibility and economic capabilities, and feasibility. Japan's current NDC is a 26% cut from 2013 levels in 2030.



community's growing recognition of a net-zero target in 2050 as the minimum requirement, Japan should also clearly declare its commitment to reach net-zero by 2050 and set NDC that corresponds to this target.

- Japan needs to demonstrate that it is making proactive efforts, including raising its NDCs, in order to maintain its respected status in the international community.

The global community warns of a 'climate crisis' to describe the urgency and magnitude of the climate change threat. The youth all over the world are conducting climate strikes, while many national and local governments have issued climate emergency declarations.

JCLP is acutely aware of the gravity of climate crisis and the importance of Japan's role in addressing it, and its corporate members are moving forward with more decarbonization efforts. We will strengthen our initiatives such as RE100, EV100, EP100 and RE Action in partnership with various stakeholders in the society and progress together with the Japanese government toward the achievement of net-zero emissions by 2050.

**Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (JCLP)** is a coalition of companies in Japan (126 as of Nov. 2019) that aims to create a zero-carbon society, seizing on the idea that decarbonized development is a prerequisite for economic activity. It was set up in 2009 to urge the business sector to develop a sense of urgency on climate actions. Recognizing the key challenge climate change poses to the society, its members are committed to integrate decarbonization measures into their core business models. The members share the common goal and communicate proactively with policy makers, peer businesses and the civil society. The coalition remains unique in that a key focus is policy engagement on decarbonization in the country. Since April 2017, JCLP has been the regional delivery partner on RE100, EP100 and EV100 initiatives in Japan.

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