

His Excellency Taro Kono
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan

April 19, 2018
Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (Japan-CLP)

Statement of Support on the Recommendations of the Advisory Panel to the Foreign Minister on Climate Change

The Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (Japan-CLP) is a business coalition which is committed to taking proactive initiatives towards a decarbonized society, based on the recognition that climate change poses a grave threat to the stability of society as well as to business activities, and also seeks to consider taking bold climate actions leads to a business opportunity.

The Advisory Panel to the Foreign Minister on Climate Change, established in January this year, and in which Japan-CLP participated as its member, has submitted the following two recommendations to the Foreign Minister Taro Kono.

"Promoting new diplomacy on energy through leading global efforts against climate change" (Feb 2018)

"Climate Change as the Main Mission of Japan's Diplomacy to Realize Japan a Decarbonized Nation" (Apr 2018)

As a business coalition aiming to realize a decarbonized society, Japan-CLP expresses its support for the recommendations by the Advisory Panel.

Statements by Japan-CLP on the Recommendations on "Promoting new diplomacy on energy through leading global efforts against climate change"

1. Deploy renewable energy diplomacy

As a part of the recommendations for Japan to deploy renewable energy diplomacy, we believe that the policy to "support and collaborate with various non-state actors in their activities worldwide" is a particularly important initiative. Expanding the role and presence of businesses and municipalities at the implementation stage of decarbonization will enhance Japan's influence and lead to bigger business opportunities at the same time.

2. Define Japan's pathway towards the energy transition

As a part of the recommendations for Japan to accomplish energy transition, we highly value the policy in particular to "place energy efficiency and renewable energy as the core strategy for decarbonization". As the cost of renewable energy is rapidly decreasing globally, achieving mass scale adoption of renewable energy and its cost reductions, by setting an ambitious national target for Japan, will lead to stronger global competitiveness and better business opportunities for Japanese businesses.

3. Take a leading role in realizing decarbonized society and create a new economic system

As a part of the recommendations for Japan to "take a leading role in realizing decarbonized society and create a new economic system", we highly value the policy in particular to "identify and maximize Japan's potentials and lead the world". Japan's contributions as a top-tier nation towards establishing a decarbonized society will ensure that Japan will continue to carry on its role in the global value chain and create new business opportunities through the development of existing industries.

Statements by Japan-CLP on the Recommendations on "Climate Change as the Main Mission of Japan's Diplomacy to Realize Japan a Decarbonized Nation"

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs should adopt climate diplomacy as a main mission of the ministry policy
Among the recommendations in Proposal III, Section 1, which recommends the Ministry (MoFA) to adopt

climate diplomacy as a main mission of the ministry policy, we believe that implementing the policy to "more frequently raise the issue of climate change and attach more importance to it during bilateral and multilateral forums" in particular, is important. Demonstrating our commitment to addressing the climate changes issues on a global scale is essential for Japan to secure a solid position in the international community, and will work to our advantage as a business strategy.

2. Japan should lead the creation of the framework for a decarbonization society
Among the recommendations in Proposal III, Section 2 which recommends Japan to contribute to the creation of a framework for a decarbonized society, we believe that implementing the policy to "actively participate in creation of evaluation criteria for businesses based on carbon dioxide emissions" in particular, is important. Establishing standards for information related to climate change risks and opportunities will enable effective business decisions and proactive investments based on the impact of climate change.
3. Japan should make efforts to achieve the "well below 2°C" target
Among the recommendations in Proposal III, Section 3, which recommends Japan to firmly maintain the rules set by the Paris Agreement and set an example to the world, we highly value the policy in particular which states "The government should enforce measures on energy efficiency and lay out a clear road map for expanding renewable energy so that the long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies will play a leading role in global decarbonization efforts", as taking a major step forward with a new vision. Laying out the government's vision of an ambitious yet feasible long-term strategy makes it possible for Japanese companies to reconsider their mid to long-term business composition and allocations for investments, which prevents creating new stranded assets, and enables transition to decarbonization as the entire society.
4. Initiatives to play to its strength
Among the recommendations in Proposal III, Section 4, which recommends Japan to accelerate its actions for decarbonised society, both within and outside Japan, by maximizing its advanced technologies, we have especially high expectations on the policy for the "establishment of a climate change platform". An organic platform where all information related to decarbonization is compiled and organized in comprehensively manner will give a significant push to promote outstanding technologies and products by Japanese businesses to the world.

Japan-CLP will continue to proactively contribute in the efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other government agencies to realize the recommendations made by the Advisory Panel.

End

Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (Japan-CLP) is a coalition of 64 leading Japanese companies committed to bold action on climate change. The coalition's vision is to see Japan become a sustainable net zero carbon society. Japan-CLP was established in order to encourage the industrial community as a whole to take more urgent action. It uniquely focusses on urging for more ambitious and accelerated policies as a pillar of Japan's efforts to address climate change. <https://japan-clp.jp/index.php/company>

For more information, please contact the Japan-CLP Secretariat at:

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) info-jclp@iges.or.jp +81-46-855-3814

