174 companies urge the Japanese government to set a GHG emissions reduction target of 50% and above by 2030 to avoid climate crisis and stay competitive

Tokyo, Japan, March 31, 2021 – Japan Climate Leaders’ Partnership (JCLP), a coalition of more than 170 businesses with a sense of urgency on climate change, has released a position statement on Japan’s mid-term emissions reduction target.

A review of Japan’s nationally determined contribution (NDC) is currently underway. In order to support Suga administration’s leadership in setting a sufficiently ambitious mid-term emissions reduction target, businesses calls on the government to set a domestic GHG emissions reduction target of 50% and above by 2030 from 2013 levels.

To stop climate crisis, 2050 carbon neutrality alone is not sufficient. We must pay our full attention to the pathway to 2050 carbon neutrality and strengthen measures toward 2030.

Furthermore, there are growing concerns among corporations that businesses may have to shift operations abroad where we can more easily access means of decarbonization. We must avoid such a situation at all cost as it will be a significant blow to the domestic industry and employment.

Based on climate science and taking into account that Japan needs a clear and ambitious target to attract investment and accelerate the flow of goods, investments, and human and policy resources to decarbonization, “50% and above from 2013 levels” is the suitable 2030 target.

As a corporate group working on an early realization of decarbonized society, JCLP will further strengthen our efforts to contribute to achieving this 2030 emissions reduction target.

The coalition has been encouraging the Japanese government to increase the share of renewables to 50% in the 2030 power generation mix and working to source more clean energy. To push through efforts to reduce emissions, we will henceforth expand the area of our work, for instance, to expanding the use of EV and decarbonizing heating and continue to strengthen our work with other stakeholders.

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Notes to editors:

About JCLP

Japan Climate Leaders’ Partnership (JCLP) is a coalition of businesses (174 companies as of April 2021) that aims to create a carbon neutral society, built on the idea that decarbonisation is essential to economic development. The group’s total sales are 137 trillion JPY (US$1.3 trillion) and electricity demand together amounts to 57 TWh representing close to 8% of the electricity demand of the industries in Japan. It was set up in 2009 to encourage the business sector to develop a sound sense of urgency on climate action.

The members share a common goal and proactively communicate with policy makers, business peers and the civil society. JCLP remains unique in Japan in that a key focus is policy engagement around actions for decarbonisation, aimed at both local and central governments in the country. Since April 2017, JCLP has been the Climate Group’s Regional Delivery Partner on RE100, EP100 and EV100 initiatives in Japan.

In October 2020, JCLP issued “the Proposals for the Review of the Long-Term Energy Supply and Demand Outlook (Energy Mix)”, calling on the government to set a target of 50% renewable electricity by 2030 to help achieve the 2050 net zero emissions goal.

See the member companies here: https://japan-clp.jp/en