

**Statement by HE Ichiro Kamoshita,
Minister for Environment of Japan
At the High-Level Segment of
the 13th Session of the COP and 3rd Session of the COP/MOP
Bali, December 2007**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. Secretary General Ban, Mr. President Witoelar, Distinguished Ministers, delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great honour to have this opportunity to speak on behalf of Japan. I am Kamoshita, the environment minister of Japan.

Let me start by expressing our deepest gratitude to your hosting this COP13 and COP/MOP3.

Mr. President,

December 11th which was yesterday marks the tenth year since the Kyoto Protocol was signed by the Parties. I had the privilege of attending the 10th Anniversary event hosted by the UNFCCC secretariat and CAN.

Japan's commitment under the Kyoto Protocol is a challenging 6% reduction from the base year. Considering Japan's current situation, achievement of this target is not an easy task. Nevertheless, Japan will prepare for its best on fulfilling the commitment. In fact, we are in the process of revising the Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan and will deliver a new strengthened plan with additional measures in March next year.

The world is watching us in Bali. To respond to the mounting expectations of the world, we must strengthen our actions against climate change based on the latest scientific evidence presented by the IPCC 4th assessment report. It is my pleasure that the IPCC received the Nobel Prize for Peace. The adverse effects of climate change are already serious.

The outcome of COP13 must be taken forward in the form of the Bali Roadmap. We must launch the negotiations for a new post 2012 framework here in Bali, to significantly strengthen measures on mitigation, adaptation and reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries.

On launching negotiations for establishing the future framework, there are three elements which are essential. The first element is the timeline of year 2009. To avoid a gap in the commitment periods, the timeline of the negotiation should be scheduled with a view to agreeing by 2009.

Second, on how to proceed with the negotiations, we must have a new Ad-hoc Working Group under the Convention, with the participation of all major emitting countries. Together with the AWG under the Kyoto Protocol discussing future commitments by Annex I Parties to the Protocol, this new AWG under the Convention should compose “Two Tracks” of negotiations with linkages in between them. If the new process cannot be launched, I must say that this conference in Bali would be seen as a failure.

Third, on the elements of the future framework, in addition to the four building blocks of the Convention Dialogue of mitigation, adaptation, technology and finance, we should include the elements of a global long- term goal; efficiency, energy security and co-benefits; a level playing field in terms of international competitiveness; and forestry.

As for the methodologies for setting emissions reductions targets, it is promising to use the sectoral approach which implements effective measures focusing on each sector. This sectoral approach is quite practical for promoting concrete actions such as technology deployment by identifying sectoral reduction potentials based on technical grounds through bottom-up public private partnership. For instance, an intensity indicator such as CO2 emissions per one unit of production can be considered. Such indicators enable us to look at the issue of levelling the playing field in terms of international competitiveness.

A “Co-benefits” approach which addresses both regional pollution and climate change would be a significant way for developing countries which face serious environment problems such as air pollution.

Mr. President,

I would like to reiterate the urgency of climate change.

The post-2012 framework must support actions on adaptation in countries and regions vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change, as well as promote reduction of greenhouse gases with the sense of solidarity.

Japan, in its “Cool Earth 50 Initiative”, proposes principles for establishing an international framework to address climate change. The post-2012 framework must take greater strides than the current Kyoto Protocol. Japan promises to create a new financial mechanism which supports those countries which face imminent threat from climate change, and those countries that are in support of the long term goal of halving global emissions by 2050, and that reduce their own emissions and achieve economic growth in a compatible way with the concept that all countries must take action under a flexible and diverse post 2012 framework.

Last but not least, what we need as an outcome at this Bali Meeting is a Bali Roadmap, launching international negotiations for building the new framework. This is of utmost importance, and we must exert our efforts on achieving this.

Mr. President,

In July next year, Japan will host the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit and climate change will be one of the main agendas. We would like to feed the outcomes of the G8 Summit into the UNFCCC process. Japan promises to the world that we will collaborate with other countries in the battle against climate change, under the United Nations, and under other forums as well.

Thank you.