

Stockholm+50: Japan's Statement at the Plenary Session

- **I would like to extend my sincere gratitude, the Governments of Sweden and Kenya, the UNEP Secretary-General, all the attendees, and all those who have contributed to holding this event. I am honored to deliver this message on behalf of the Japanese government at this important event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, which marked the history of environmental administration.**
- **The Stockholm Conference followed the historical establishment of Japan's Environment Agency in 1971.**
- **At first, pollution such as air pollution in Japan was one of the issues of concern. But in the following 50 years, global environmental issues such as climate change and biodiversity loss have become more apparent. New topics have emerged, such as marine plastic litter, and the establishment of a circular economy. It has become primordial to address environmental issues not only domestically, but also internationally. Therefore, we have worked hand in hand with the international community.**
- **Japan's public and private sectors are working together to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. In order to achieve digital transformation and a decarbonized society at the same time, Japan is promoting integrated climate change countermeasures, including promotion of renewable energy in data centers and EVs in transport sector.**
- **In September 2020, Japan launched "Platform for Redesign 2020" on recovery from COVID-19 pandemic and climate change / environmental measures. This online platform consolidates initial actions and knowledge on the measures in each country, and the information accumulated here can be useful for each country.**
- **Regarding biodiversity, Japan is committed to nature positivity and the 30by30 target. This April, Japan formulated a roadmap for achieving this goal. Japan supports the inclusion of the 30by30 target into the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.**
- **As an international contribution, we also announced the launch of the second phase of the Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF) in the first part of COP15 to support developing countries.**

- **Regarding the circular economy, Japan will continue to drive efforts toward the world-wide transition to a circular economy through the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE).**
- **We will also cooperate and contribute to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC.), which will start this year to discuss an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.**
- **The Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, will be held in Tokyo next month. Through the sharing of good practices and other activities, we will raise the ambition toward the 1.5-degree goal and build a basis for synergistic actions to achieve the SDGs.**
- **We will continue to work in cooperation with other countries to solve global environmental problems.**
- **Russia's aggression against Ukraine have caused serious damage to the environment, so we strongly condemn Russia, and call on the country to withdraw its troops immediately and unconditionally. In any conditions, our determination to address climate change and other global environmental issues is unwavering.**
- **Lastly, environmental issues have no borders. Let's continue to work hand in hand to realize 'A Healthy Planet for the Prosperity of All.'**
- **Thank you.**