



**TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE JAPAN-CANADA MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE
ON CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT**

THE THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF CANADA, hereinafter referred to as the “Participants,”

RECALLING the strong bilateral relationship between Japan and Canada as like-minded partners on climate and environment; and

CONSIDERING that “environment and climate change” is one of six shared Japan-Canada priorities contributing to a free and open Indo-Pacific region that were jointly announced by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of both countries on May 3rd, 2021;

HAVE COME to the following non-legally binding Terms of Reference (TOR) to guide the Japan-Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Climate and Environment (the “Dialogue”):

1. OBJECTIVES

The Participants hereby establish the Dialogue to:

- (i) provide a forum for a comprehensive policy dialogue on climate and environment for strengthening bilateral cooperation, including through sharing information on relevant domestic policies, exchanging best practices, and contributing to Japan and Canada’s wider cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region; and
- (ii) facilitate robust high-level discussion and exchange on bilateral policy issues, global trends and emerging issues related to climate and environment.

2. ORGANIZATION AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE DIALOGUE

The Participants understand that:

- (i) the Dialogue will take place once per year, or as otherwise jointly decided in advance by the Participants, and they may take place either in-person or virtually, or in some combination thereof;
- (ii) the location of in-person meetings may take place in Japan or Canada, or on the margins of international events, as jointly decided in advance by the Participants;

- (iii) the Participants may jointly decide to invite additional officials, experts or representatives from other government Departments or Ministries, or from non-governmental organizations or the private sector (e.g., clean technology companies) to contribute to the elements of the Dialogue agenda;
- (iv) the Dialogue will be supported by Directorate General (DG) level meetings two times per year, or as otherwise jointly decided in advance by the Participants, which may further include the formation of additional working groups or committees to facilitate further bilateral policy engagement on the issues to be covered under the Dialogue.

3. MAJOR TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

The Participants understand that:

- (i) the Dialogue will provide a forum for the Ministers of the Participants to have a comprehensive policy dialogue on climate and environment policy issues of mutual interest, including how to strengthen their cooperation;
- (ii) the agenda will be set in a flexible manner so as to ensure the Dialogue encompasses emerging priorities for both Japan and Canada; and
- (iii) policy issues that may serve as a basis for discussion include, for example:
 - (A) green growth and clean technology, including a green recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (B) clean energy, including cooperation on hydrogen, ammonia, and carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS) technologies;
 - (C) market-based mechanisms/carbon pricing for emissions reductions, including carbon taxes and emissions trading systems;
 - (D) implementation of policy commitments to reach net-zero emissions by 2050;
 - (E) capacity-building and technical support for climate adaptation in developing countries in the Indo-Pacific region;
 - (F) protection of biodiversity and nature-based solutions;
 - (G) transition to a circular economy, including reduction of plastics waste and marine litter; and
 - (H) strengthening partnerships and advancing priorities on climate and environment issues in multilateral fora, with an emphasis on early implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

4. FUNDING

- (a) Each Participant will pay for the costs it incurs under these TOR.
- (b) These TOR do not represent a guarantee of funds from the Participants.

5. FINAL DISPOSITIONS

- (a) These TOR will take effect on the date of their signature by the Participants.
- (b) The Participants may modify these TOR upon their mutual written consent.
- (c) Either Participant may terminate these TOR by giving sixty (60) days' written notice to the other Participant.

SIGNED in duplicate at Sharm el-Sheikh this 17th day of November 2022, in English and French languages, each versions being equally valid.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE
ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN**

**FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
ENVIRONMENT OF CANADA**

Nishimura Akihiro

Steven Guilbeault

Minister of the Environment of Japan

Minister of Environment and
Climate Change of Canada