

Petersberg Climate Dialogue XI 2020  
VIDEO Message by KOIZUMI Shinjiro, Minister of the Environment, Japan

In this moment of crisis, we need to focus all our efforts, first and foremost, on containing the COVID-19 pandemic. That is to “save lives.”

My message is simple.

Save lives, save the Paris Agreement, and save our planet.

Japan put together an emergency economic package this month which includes measures to promote so-called “Green Recovery”, as we look ahead to life beyond the corona pandemic. Just to mention a few, there will be measures to support electric mobility in logistics and home delivery sectors. We will also promote high-performance insulation in housing and introduction of solar power by businesses investing in Japan.

Last month Japan submitted its NDC. Let me make it clear. It’s not our intention to leave the national target level as it is. Rather, we will aim for aspiring figures in the NDC reflecting further ambitious emissions reduction efforts. For that, the first step will be to review our Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures. Upon completing that step, we will submit additional information by COP26.

Also, we have taken a big step and come to an agreement with relevant ministries to start a discussion on reviewing the export policy on coal-fired power plants.

Individual actions and international cooperation are both indispensable to fight against our common enemies, COVID-19 and climate change. We know that in Japan. Because, without the spirit of international cooperation so kindly offered to us, our efforts of recovery from the 2011 Earthquake and the nuclear accident would have been much more difficult.

Now is the time to unite; to save lives, save the Paris Agreement, and save Our Planet.