

Thank you.

On behalf of Japan, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Mexico's Foreign Minister Patricia Espinosa, the chair of this session and Environment Minister Elvira Quesada for your initiative and leadership. I believe that we need to exercise our political leadership to make a successful outcome at the COP16.

Japan hosted the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP10 in my hometown Aichi-Nagoya last week. As all of you have already known, Parties have agreed to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, Aichi Target, and more. In everybody's eyes, CBD-COP10 made an excellent success. As a representative of the Japanese delegation for CBD-COP10, I am really proud of such a success. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all Ministers and stakeholders who contributed to the success.

Now is the turn of climate change. Both biodiversity and climate change should be addressed to save our children's future. I came

here to carry this momentum to the negotiation for climate change and to achieve a tangible outcome at the COP16.

Using the margin of the COP10, the "Aichi-Nagoya Ministerial Meeting of the REDD+ Partnership" was held. In Nagoya, the Ministers concurred on a framework of the work programme for 2011 and 2012. I hope this achievement will accelerate REDD+ activities, which are one of the pillars of climate change mitigation.

Let's look back on the original intention of the convention. Our goal is to reduce greenhouse gases on a global scale and stabilize their concentrations. To achieve this ultimate objective, a fair and effective international framework with participation of all major economies is indispensable.

To this end, a well-balanced and comprehensive package of decisions should be concurred at the COP16 with a view to adopting a legal document to establish a new framework promptly thereafter. Specifically, three elements are to be included in such decisions;

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*Statement by Japanese Senior Vice Minister for the Environment*

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- First, ambitious mitigation targets and actions by developed and developing countries,
- Second, MRV and ICA to enhance effectiveness and transparency of such mitigation targets and actions, and
- Third, support for mitigation and adaptation for developing countries, including finance, technology transfer and capacity building

With regard to the 4 sessions of the AWGs this year, we have made some progress to some extent in the support-related agenda. On the other hand, the discussions on mitigation, especially on MRV and ICA, have not always been constructive. I strongly hope that intensive discussions on this issue will be conducted based on the Copenhagen Accord at this meeting and in Cancun as well.

Japan considers that the Kyoto Protocol represents the first step to address climate change. To take further steps to reduce emissions globally, however, it doesn't make sense to set the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol as the current Kyoto Protocol imposes obligation on only a small part of these countries.

We believe that a fair and effective international framework with participation of all major emitters should be established.

Japan is determined to take the lead in steering toward a low carbon society. Despite our already world's highest level of energy efficiency, we took the initiative of setting an ambitious target. The Government of Japan submitted to the Diet a domestic legislation, covering a wide range of measures to be taken, among others; emissions trading system, tax for measures against global warming and feed-in tariff system for renewable energy. I hope these policy measures will trigger further investments and green growth as well as steady emission reduction.

In addition, Japan committed about 15 billion dollars of first-start financing to developing countries both from the public and the private sector, and has already implemented more than one-third of it. We would like to continue to implement it steady.

I hope that our two days' discussions will be fruitful toward the upcoming COP16 in Cancun.

Thank you for your attention.