

Climate Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

- **Climate change is a transnational and global challenge, and it is crucial that the international society work together to address this challenge.**
 - ⇒ Under this circumstances, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) contributes to the international effort in addressing climate change through negotiation for making framework and improving administration of the status within the international frameworks including United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement which commitment period starts in 2020.
- **The growing international interest on the countermeasures against climate change and the scale expansion of renewable energy are interrelated.**
 - ⇒ Along with fostering international momentum through negotiation opportunities such as COPs, the MOFA encourages energy conversion both in Japan and overseas through steadily implementing the Paris Agreement and taking on diplomatic policy contribute to the enhancement of global as well as domestic energy transition.
- **To promote countermeasures against climate change including implementation of the Paris Agreement, roles of various players such as private companies, local governments, NGOs and civil societies (non-government organization, non state stakeholder) are important.**
 - ⇒ Collaborating and working together with these entities/organizations, the MOFA keeps addressing on climate change measures to realize the “2°C target” which is stipulated in the Paris Agreement, and other goals.



New major initiatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2018

- ✓ Advisory Panel of Experts on Climate Change
- ✓ Reinforced support on designated diplomatic missions
- ✓ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs “RE100” declaration
- ✓ Long-term strategy development as a growth strategy based on the Paris Agreement



The Advisory Panel of Experts on Climate Change

○Background

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs established an Advisory Panel of Experts on Climate Change, with a view to identify a new policy direction in relation to climate change issues, taking into account new global trends and inputs from NGOs, researchers, and companies taking active measures against climate change. The first intellectual meeting was held on January 9th 2018, hosted by the minister. It had been held 12 times in total. At the 8th meeting on February 19th (the second minister-hosted meeting), it submitted the recommendation about energy. Also at the 12th meeting on April 19th (the third minister-hosted meeting), it submitted suggestion about climate change.

[Summary of Recommendations]

○Recommendations on Energy: Promote New diplomacy on energy through leading global efforts against climate change

1. Deploy renewable energy diplomacy

- 1) Contribute to the global efforts against climate change and realize economic and social development
- 2) Contribute to the future of developing countries through sustainable energy
- 3) Support and collaborate with various non-state actors in their activities worldwide

2. Define Japan's pathway towards the energy transition

- 1) Place energy efficiency and renewable energy as the core strategy for decarbonization
- 2) Achieve a decarbonized society in line with the Paris Agreement
- 3) Develop further from starting point of “reducing dependency on nuclear power as much as possible”

3. Take a leading role in realizing decarbonized society and create a new economic system

- 1) Identify and maximize Japan's potentials and lead the world
- 2) Promote responsible investment and finance towards decarbonization
- 3) Contribute to the world through promoting decentralized energy model

○Recommendations on Climate Change: Climate Change as the Main Mission of Japan's Diplomacy to Transform Japan into a Decarbonized Nation

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs should adopt climate diplomacy as a main mission of the ministry policy

2. Japan should lead the creation of the framework for a decarbonization society

3. Japan should make efforts to achieve the “well below 2°C target”

4. Initiatives to play to its strength

- 1) Establishment of a climate change platform
- 2) Development of the Asia Offshore Wind Power Initiative
- 3) Cooperation with developing countries to achieve nationally determined contributions (NDCs)
- 4) Support for developing countries specific to the location and region
- 5) Strategic reconstruction of financial support institutions

