

Statement by H.E. Mr. MOTEGI Toshimitsu,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

At the Meeting of Heads of State and Government
on the International Debt Architecture and Liquidity

- Financing for the Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Initiative -

The Right Honorable Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau,
The Most Honorable Prime Minister of Jamaica, Andrew Holness,
Your Excellency, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. António Guterres,

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, Japan has been providing foreign aid of more than \$1.54 billion at an unprecedented speed for developing countries with vulnerable health and medical systems, aiming to achieve universal health coverage in the international community under the principle of “leaving no one’s health behind”.

In addition to efforts in the health sector, Japan has also provided \$2.84 billion through “the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan” to help improve the difficult economic conditions of developing countries.

Furthermore, to complement the framework of the COVAX facility and to deliver vaccines to each and every person, Japan is now working to implement its "Last One Mile Support", which consists of the provision of cold chain equipment such as cold-storage facilities and transportation.

Mr. President,

The mobilization of private sector resources is essential to bridge the funding gap for achieving the SDGs, which is estimated at \$2.5 trillion per year.

Japan is accelerating ESG investment and promoting the mobilization of private sector resources by annually issuing about \$550 million of JICA bonds as social bonds to achieve the SDGs. Japan will continue its efforts to improve environmental conditions to enable more private sector resources to flow into developing countries.

In order to overcome the COVID-19 crisis, Japan will continue to play a leading role in moving toward the post-Corona era, building upon the principle of "human security," not only in addressing global health, but in firmly addressing the debt and liquidity problems of developing countries.