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JAPAN CLIMATE INITIATIVE >

Tentative Translation

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Ms. Yoko Kamikawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs

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Mr. Tetsushi Sakamoto, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Mr. Ken Saito, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Minister for Green Transformation

Mr. Tetsuo Saito, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Mr. Shintaro Ito, Minister of the Environment

Mr. Taro Kono, Minister of State for Regulatory Reform

Respond to the sincere voices of the Japanese non-state actors and develop an ambitious NDC that we can be proud of as a developed country.

The Japan Climate Initiative (JCI) today released a message "JCI calls on the Japanese government to set an ambitious 2035 target that is consistent with the 1.5-degree goal." (Annex 1). This message was endorsed by 216 organizations (153 companies, 5 local governments, 6 universities and research institutes, and 52 organizations and NGOs, etc.) (Annex 2).

Despite the short timeframe of the call, the number of endorsements has exceeded 200, and they are diverse. Endorsing organizations include companies from a wide range of industries such as IT, machinery, steel, electronics and electrical equipment, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications, transportation, food, retail, housing and construction, civil engineering, and finance, including 71 TSE Prime listed companies. The Japan Climate Leaders Partnership and the Network of Business Leaders and Entrepreneurs for a Sustainable Business and Energy Future, which are business groups actively promoting climate action, were also named on the list. In addition, a diverse range of non-state actors, including local governments, consumer groups, a religious organization, universities and research institutes, NGOs/NPOs, and youth groups, have endorsed the message. The number of consumers and members of the general public who belong to these organizations is enormous.

Notably, for the first time ever in Japan, 216 non-state actors, including some of the country's leading companies, have come forward by name and called for the phase-out of coal-fired power generation by the year 2035. Significantly, they also call for the accelerated deployment of solar and wind power generation, citing figures that show it is possible to increase the share of renewable energy to 65-80% of the electricity supply in 2035. It is no exaggeration to say that domestic stakeholders' calls for a shift in Japan's climate policy are reaching a tipping point.

With the release of this JCI Message, we, the Co-Representatives of JCI, sincerely hope that the Japanese government will heed the voices of JCI members, who can be said to be the representatives of Japan, and redetermine its climate policy so that it will be able to play a major role in the global race to decarbonize, alongside the leading group in the fight against the climate crisis, while at the same time paving the way for the future of the country's industries and economy.

July 8, 2024 Takejiro Sueyoshi and Shigeo Kato Co-Representatives, Japan Climate Initiative