

Kainaki II to COP 26 – Pacific Islands Forum High-Level Roundtable
on Urgent Climate Change Action

Statement of H.E Mr. NAKANISHI Satoshi,
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Honourable Prime Minister of Tuvalu and Forum Chair Natano, all distinguished delegates, I am NAKANISHI Satoshi, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan. Let me express my honor to have the opportunity to make a short statement.

The Pacific islands region is most affected by climate change, and facing a crisis situation. Japan shares their sense of crisis as a friend on the other side of the Pacific Ocean.

While COP26 has been postponed due to the spread of the COVID-19, it is very meaningful to hold this Round-table today, on the day before the 5th anniversary of the adoption of the Paris Agreement.

In October, Prime Minister Suga announced in his policy speech that by 2050 Japan will aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero, that is, to realize a carbon-neutral society.

Thankfully, his announcement was welcomed by warm remarks of many leaders. Honourable Prime Minister of Fiji Bainimarama even tweeted “Great!” in Japanese, “Sugoi!”

To achieve this ambitious target, Japan will devote itself to bring about a green society, while focusing on a “virtuous cycle of the economy and the environment” as a pillar of our growth strategy.

Last week, Japan announced the economic stimulus measures to establish an unprecedented fund of 2 trillion yen, which equivalent to approximately 18 billion US dollar. Through this fund, the Government of Japan will support companies that work on to make key ambitious innovations such as hydrogen, storage batteries, carbon recycling for the next 10 years. By doing so, we will create employment and growth by boosting private investment, and inducing environment-related investment funds from all over the world.

We will also build systems and regulations to maximize the introduction of electric vehicles, with the aim of reducing CO2 emissions from automobiles to zero.

Japan's determination is not limited to this. Regarding Japan's efforts toward 2030, we will proceed with discussions based on our new target, and we aim to submit them to the UNFCCC by COP26.

Last but not least, Japan continues to contribute to climate actions in the Pacific islands region as a partner country in a visible manner, such contribution includes the efforts such as achieving the goal of mobilizing 100 billion dollars by developed countries, contribution to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), cooperation through the Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM), human resource development of Pacific island countries' government officials in the field of climate change at the Pacific Climate Change Center (PCCC) with New Zealand, and acceleration of emissions reduction such as through hydrogen cooperation with Australia.

Toward to COP26 next year, Japan is determined to lead the efforts to realize the decarbonized world that the Paris Agreement aims for, in cooperation with other countries.

Thank you very much for your attention.