

## STI Forum (May 5-6, 2022) Ministerial Session

### Remarks by Minister Kobayashi

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, good morning and good afternoon. My name is KOBAYASHI Takayuki, Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the UN ECOSOC, UN DESA, and other UN agencies, for organizing today's forum.

Also, I would like to thank the UN 10-Member-Group for their dedication to this forum.

To begin with, I would like to point out that Russia's invasion of Ukraine is an attempt to unilaterally change the status quo by force, which is unacceptable. We condemn it in the strongest terms.

Now, I will introduce Japan's efforts to promote STI for SDGs.

Last year, Japan developed a concept of "Realization of Society 5.0" in the Sixth Science, Technology and Innovation Basic Plan, which is a five-year blueprint for our STI policy. Measures to be prioritized to this end are embodied in the annual Integrated Innovation Strategy.

In this sense, also, because the concept of "Realization of Society 5.0" includes initiatives to achieve SDGs by STI, I think this strategy can

be Japan's STI for SDGs roadmap.

Under this strategy, Japan has been taking initiatives of STI for SDGs to help address social challenges in Japan and abroad by collaborating with UN organizations.

In concrete terms, for instance, Japan has been implementing a fintech-related project for agriculture in Kenya since April of last year, and has made financial contributions to the World Bank, as part of the UN Global Pilot Program.

Also, with a financial contribution to the UNDP, we are supporting SDGs projects in eight countries.

Based on our experiences, Japan will continue to examine what we can do from the viewpoint of STI to achieve SDGs and continue to make contributions.

Lastly, I would like to close my remarks by wishing all participants and stakeholders of this forum every success in their endeavors. Thank you very much.