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In recent years, we have witnessed an alarming increase in the number and intensity of water-related disasters, such as heavy rains, floods, and droughts. We would therefore like to highlight the importance of risk reduction from water-related disasters.

In the 2023 UN Water conference, We served as a co-chair of “Interactive Dialogue 3 – Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment”, together with Egypt. Japan thinks that the 2026 conference should build up on the achievements of the 2023 conference, including the five themes of the interactive dialogues.

We would also like to emphasize the cross-cutting nature of water. Water connects with various global and social issues, such as climate change, disasters, biodiversity loss, public health, and poverty. Thus, water is a key element for achieving the other SDGs and critically important for realizing human security.

In terms of continuous discussion, Japan and Egypt have made efforts to follow up the discussions in the ID3, mainly on the occasion of relevant international and regional conferences, namely the 6th and 7th Cairo Water Week, the 9th Africa Water Week, the 10th World Water Forum and the 3rd Dushanbe Water Action Decade Conference.

Japan has also made progress in its own commitments, such as the Kumamoto Initiative for Water and the Water Cycle Integrator, and Japan is

contributing to Egypt's commitments, such as the Action on Water Adaptation and Resilience (AWARe).

In addition, based on the discussion in the ID3, Japan would like to transfer this discussion to other societies, including ISO, or the International Standardisation Organisation, with regard to hydrological risks.

Japan will maintain our momentum in this continuous effort to follow up the ID3 discussions in cooperation with Egypt.

And I believe that Japan's such initiatives will link the outcomes of the 2023 Water Conference to the 2026 Conference, based on a continuous pavement.
