As the importance of cyberspace is increasing, cyber threats are rapidly growing.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) needs to lead international discussions on how to ensure a free, fair, and secure cyberspace, strengthening coordination with other countries.

In close cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies and a wide range of actors in the private sector, the MOFA will continue to actively conduct foreign policy in the field of cyber, especially

1) promoting the rule of law in cyberspace;
2) developing confidence building measures; and
3) cooperating on capacity building.
There have been cyber attacks against not only Japanese government institutions but also private firms. Japan is no exception of rapidly-growing cyber threats.

### Data volume related to cyber attacks observed by NICT
(annual total packet per one IP address on darknet (approximate figure))

- **Rapidly increasing in the last three years**

### Cases of cyber attacks (reported by news media)
- **Sep. 2011**  Attacks against Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, ltd. in Japan
- **Nov. 2012**  Attacks against HP of the Supreme Court and the Agency for Cultural Affairs
- **Jun. 2015**  Leakage of personal information of 1.25 million people from Japan Pension Service
- **Dec. 2015**  Attacks against HP of Prime Minister Abe by “Anonymous”
- **Jun. 2016**  Suspected leakage of personal information of about 6.8 million people from JTB Corp., a Japanese travel agency
- **Jan. 2018**  “Coincheck” lost 58 billion JPY in hacking attack

*Source: National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT)*
In balancing these three, there are differences in positions among countries.

**Ensuring cyber security**

**Maintaining the free flow of information**

**Protecting privacy**

- Prioritizing free flow of information and multi-stakeholder (governments, businesses, civil society and others) approach as fundamental principles
- Reconfirming existing international law applicable to cyberspace

- Prioritizing domestic control based on sovereignty (strengthening regulations, requesting source code and etc. based on domestic law)
- Being cautious with the application of existing international law to cyberspace.

Other neutral countries
Japan’s Cyber Security Diplomacy

With the three pillars consisting of 1) promotion of the rule of law in cyberspace, 2) development of confidence-building measures and 3) cooperation on capacity building, Japan aims to further contribute to the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region as well as the international community.

1 Partnerships and dialogues with other countries
(1) Currently, Japan has bilateral dialogues on cyber with 11 countries (the US, Australia, the UK, France, Germany, Russia, India, ROK, Israel, Estonia and Ukraine).
(2) Japan also has dialogues on cyber with the EU and ASEAN as well as within the Japan-China-ROK and Japan-US-ROK trilateral frameworks.

2 Major Global/Regional Frameworks
(1) United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (UNGGE): Governmental cyber experts from different countries discuss issues such as the rule of law and confidence-building in cyberspace within the framework of the UN. Since 2004, five sessions have been held.
(2) G7 (Summit Meeting and Foreign Ministers’ Meeting): The G7 leaders decided to establish a new working group on cyber at Ise-Shima Summit 2016.
(3) G20: Cyber is among the agenda and mentioned in the joint statement.
(4) ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF): The forum has held Inter-sessional Meeting on Security of and in the Use of Information Communications Technologies(ARF-ISM on ICTs Security) and workshops on cyber.
(5) Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) (so called the London Process): Minister-level participants comprehensively discuss various issues on cyber.

*In addition, there are a number of track 1.5 dialogues and symposiums sponsored by the non-governmental sector.
Way Forward

- Japan will work together with countries which have common values with Japan to promote the rule of law in cyberspace.

- Japan will further promote the confidence-building measures and capacity building, mainly in the Asia Pacific region.

- By doing so, Japan will strive to play an active and key role in securing peace and stability in the region and the international community.