

【Provisional translation】

**Welcome speech by Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. HAYASHI  
At the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit 2021**

Excellencies, distinguished guests, dear friends and colleagues,

First, let me thank all of you for participating in the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021 today.

Five years have passed since the previous Nutrition for Growth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 and the world has changed significantly in that time. Today, one in every 10 people in the world suffers from hunger or undernutrition, while one in every three is overweight or obese. The entire world has been facing the double burden of malnutrition: where undernutrition stunting growth exists side-by-side with overnutrition causing lifestyle related diseases. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has aggravated nutrition issues. All stakeholders, including governments of both high-income and resource-limited nations, private sector entities, civil society, and academia, need to be united in addressing this important issue.

Malnutrition is not only a serious challenge for the life and health of human beings, but also has an enormous impact on our economy and society. At the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, we intend to focus and deepen discussion on 5 priority areas: (1) nutrition and Universal Health Coverage, (2) safe, sustainable, and healthy food systems, (3) measures against malnutrition in vulnerable situations, (4) data-driven accountability, and (5) financing for nutrition.

I, myself, have been actively engaged in the fight against the global food problem as the President of the FAO Parliamentarian Friendship League in Japan. I am determined to continue to lead the international community

in improving nutrition for as many people as possible and achieving a society where no one is left behind.

I sincerely hope that through this Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, all stakeholders will be able to announce ambitious commitments and that we will be able to leave this summit at a new stage.

Now, I would like to invite His Excellency Mr. KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan, to deliver his opening remarks on behalf of the Government of Japan, the host of the Summit.