

**Video Message by H.E. HAYASHI Yoshimasa
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan**

Global Launch of the 2022 Special Report on Human Security

Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of UNDP,
Distinguished Participants,

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to UNDP on the global launch of its Special Report on Human Security: "New threats to human security in the Anthropocene".

Two years have passed since the outbreak of COVID-19, but it is still raging around the world, threatening people's survival, livelihoods and dignity. It is truly a human security crisis.

As a country that has long advocated human security as a pillar of its diplomacy, Japan believes that now is the time to deepen discussions on human security, with a view to addressing the evolving threats of our era, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change.

Accordingly, Japan has supported UNDP's discussions on the preparation of this Special Report since its inception. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the efforts of the UNDP Human Development Report Office in completing this important, illuminating and timely report, which calls for renewed strategy and concrete actions.

In addition, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the High-Level Advisory Panel, which provided useful and insightful advice.

The Special Report advocates the importance of "solidarity" in addition to the traditional two pillars of human security, namely "protection" and "empowerment". In the Anthropocene, global issues such as climate change and infectious diseases transcend national boundaries, and that it is impossible for any one country to deal with them alone. It is essential for all countries to work together in solidarity.

The recommendation of policy framework on the new generation of human security places the agency of individuals at the center of the three pillars of protection, empowerment, and solidarity, and promotes these three pillars in a spirit of trust. It underlines that the international community can only address transboundary challenges through cooperation, not by competition, among countries by overcoming their respective narrow interests.

The Special Report also clearly reminds us that such a human security approach through "the eyes of humankind" is needed more than ever on our planet, which faces a critical juncture, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on the recommendations of this Special Report, Japan will further disseminate the concept of human security and promote its implementation through the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security. In cooperation with the Group of Friends of Human Security, Japan will also contribute to discussions on human security in the United Nations and beyond, including at TICAD8 to be held later this year.

I thank you for your attention.