

Global Partnership Working Group
Address by Takei Shunsuke, State Minister for Foreign Affairs

Distinguished guests from the Global Partnership Member countries, Asian countries and International Organizations, welcome to Japan.

Representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, I would like to welcome all distinguished participants of the Global Partnership Working Group.

The global peace and stability requires tireless efforts and should not be taken for granted, as Russia continues its aggression against Ukraine. Japan, as the G7 Chair this year, will continue to further work for the peace and stability of the international society.

The “Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction” was launched at the Kananaskis Summit in 2002 and is meaningful efforts in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation. I would like to express my respect to Canada for hosting the summit in that year.

As you may know, the Global Partnership started its work initially in Russia to address the issues such as the dismantlement of decommissioned nuclear submarines and the destruction of chemical weapons.

The Global Partnership has expanded its work and it includes the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, nuclear and radiological security (nrs) and Biological and Chemical security (bs/cs), and the number of member countries is now 30.

Russia’s aggression against Ukraine that started a year ago has caused concerns over nuclear safety and security at nuclear power plants and threats of the use of chemical weapons.

Moreover, the Pandemic has shown the importance of biological security. The work of the Global Partnership has become increasingly important.

The Global Partnership is also essential to realize a “world without nuclear weapons”, which Prime Minister Kishida, Prime Minister from Hiroshima, emphasizes.

In this context, Japan will further contribute to the Global Partnership.

I heard that, during the last Global Partnership Working Group held last October in Berlin, a dinner reception was held by the Spree River. This evening, with the night view of the illuminated Rainbow Bridge and the light, I hope that you will be able to relax and continue the conversations.

Since this year’s Global Partnership is held in Japan, we have participants from ASEAN countries as well.

I would like to congratulate the 50th commemorative year of the ASEAN-Japan friendship and cooperation, wish the best of all distinguished participants and propose a toast.

Please join me in raising your glasses – Kanpai.