

**A Video Message from Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko
for the Ministerial Meeting of the Third Summit for Democracy**

Distinguished participants, at the outset, please allow me to pay tribute to the host of the third Summit for Democracy, the Government of the Republic of Korea, and the chair of this Ministerial Meeting, Foreign Minister Cho.

It is significant and timely that the ROK as the chair has chosen AI and digital technology as the themes of this meeting.

Technology and innovations have bright potential, and technologies, including AI, are essential for the continued global sustainable development. However, while they have such bright potential, we also need to be mindful of their dark side.

For example, there are various risks and challenges such as cybersecurity, disinformation and privacy, regarding generative AI.

Moreover, any misuse of advanced AI systems, including generative AI, could damage the very foundations of democracy.

Today, I would like to share my thoughts on the issue of fakes that could damage the due process and foundation of democracy and thus undermine the legitimacy of the democratic outcome.

The basis of democracy is the will of the people, which is expressed through free and independent thought based on a variety of information.

However, if deep fakes created by AI overwhelm the digital space, and information, including public announcements, is distorted, such space is a fake space.

Decisions made within such a fake space cannot be said to represent the true will of people. This would undermine political legitimacy and credibility.

There are also risks of AI being used for foreign information manipulation, as it enables the generation and dissemination of malicious narratives that undermine democratic processes and international cooperation.

Be it individuals or nations, stability and prosperity are founded on relationships of trust. We must counter information manipulation that creates mutual distrust and division.

Efforts are being taken around the world to increase individual media information literacy, strengthen fact-checking, and develop technology to detect deep fakes.

In order to mitigate the risks of rapidly evolving technologies, while maximizing opportunities for their innovative use, it is necessary to formulate human-centered international governance with multi-stakeholder participation.

Last year, as the G7 Presidency, Japan launched the Hiroshima AI Process to discuss international rules on generative AI.

After much discussion, at the end of the last year, the Hiroshima AI Process successfully formulated the Hiroshima AI Process Comprehensive Policy Framework, the first international policy framework for promoting safe, secure and trustworthy advanced AI systems, consisting of international guiding principles and code of conduct.

The Framework encourages the development and deployment of technologies that allow users to identify AI-generated content, such as watermarking, and promotes project-based international cooperation on disinformation.

We would like to expand these efforts and promote cooperation for the realization of safe, secure and trustworthy AI.

Thank you for your attention.