

Video Message by Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
for International Women's Day
(March 8, 2024)

Hello, everyone. I am Kamikawa Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.

Today, March 8th, is International Women's Day, as proclaimed by the United Nations. It is my sincere pleasure to celebrate with you this memorable day for women all over the world.

However, discrimination and violence against women, as well as economic disparities between men and women still widely exist across global society. Especially during conflicts and disasters, vulnerable people such as women and children are severely affected.

I visited Ukraine and Poland this January and witnessed the lives of women and children who had

lost their homes and were forced to evacuate. I am determined that we must bring about "reintegration" for Ukrainian families, communities, and people who have been separated.

Women, Peace and Security (WPS), which I am promoting, is an initiative to build a diverse society and achieve sustainable peace through women's participation in a leading role in peacebuilding and disaster reconstruction processes. I believe it is one of my missions to advance diplomacy with WPS perspectives.

International Women's Day is also a day for calls to action. Let us work together to achieve a world without conflict, and a society where "no one is left behind. "