Speech by H.E.Mr. FUJII Kazuhiro
Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
at "Tokyo Indo-Pacific Dialogue: Strengthening Community Resilience, Prevention, and Regional Cooperation"
24 November 2026 at Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Tokyo

Mr. Stefano Manservisi, Chair of the Governing Board of GCERF,
Dr. Khalid Koser, Executive Director of GCERF,
Dr. Nobuko Kayashima, Senior Executive Director of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation,
Distinguished guests,

I am FUJII Kazuhiro, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. It is my distinct privilege to extend a most cordial welcome to all our distinguished guests who have come to Japan from across the globe to participate in this vital series of meetings.

This marks the first time the GCERF Governing Board meeting has been held in the Indo-Pacific region. This region, home to half of the world's population and approximately 60% of global GDP, is the driving force of global growth and vitality, characterized by the vibrant flows of people, goods, capital, and information.

Therefore, we believe that building an order based on "freedom," "openness," "diversity," "inclusiveness," and the "rule of law" in this region is in the common interest of the international community.

From this perspective, Japan has been vigorously promoting efforts to realize a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" since 2016. Under this vision, Japan aims to ensure the autonomy and resilience of Indo-Pacific countries, and to become more resilient and prosperous together with countries in the region.

Terrorism and violent extremism also pose significant threats to this region. In recent years, driven by the rapid advancement of emerging technologies, the modalities of terrorism, the spread of extremist ideologies, and the methods of terrorist financing and recruitment have become increasingly complex and sophisticated. Moreover, the threat of CBRNE *(Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives)* terrorism could also rise.

To counter these threats, it is essential not only to foster cooperation among countries, but also to ensure that efforts at the government level and the grassroots level complement each other and generate synergies. The cooperation among GCERF, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on this occasion is a true embodiment of this approach. I am confident that it will continue to be strengthened in the future.

This two-day meeting serves as an excellent opportunity to deepen our discussions on counter-terrorism cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. I would like to conclude my remarks by expressing my sincere hope for further deepening our partnership with all of you.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

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