

**Statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Kazuo Kodama**  
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**Permanent Delegation of Japan to the OECD**  
**at the International Energy Agency (IEA) Ministerial Meeting**  
**held at the OECD in Paris, France**  
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**Plenary Session 3**  
**“Redefining Energy Security and Co-Operation”**

Thank you, Chair. Let me start by expressing my sincere appreciation to our Chair, His Excellency Mr. Yildiz, and the IEA Executive Director, Ms. van der Hoeven, for their dedication in organizing this meeting. I would also like to thank Mr. Keisuke Sadamori, Director for Energy Markets and Security, for his insightful presentation on the Emergency Response Exercise.

**Energy Security and Japan’s Contribution**

The international community today is facing several challenges to energy security, such as increasing energy demand in emerging economies due to economic growth, the impact of unconventional energy developments, and enhanced diversification of fuels.

**Increase of Importance of Gas Security**

As pointed out in the latest World Energy Outlook released by the IEA, the demand for fossil fuels, particularly natural gas, is expected to increase rapidly in Asia, which has become the center of growth in the global economy. Japan’s imports of natural gas have recently increased as well. As a result, gas security is becoming more and more relevant.

Under such circumstances, it is important for the IEA to enhance emergency response capacity in order to address gas supply disruptions appropriately. We would support the IEA in developing such capacity since an integral part of its mission is to promote international co-operation in the field of emergency preparedness and response.

At the same time, we must revitalize international gas trade by providing more flexible and transparent gas markets in Asia. Japan has been working towards this goal by holding LNG Producer-Consumer Conferences in Tokyo and by conducting joint studies with other countries on global LNG markets.

**Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

Relaxation of the supply-demand balance through demand reduction of fossil fuels, and diversification of fuels are key elements for ensuring energy security and sustainability.

In this context, it is a pressing challenge for the international community, as well as for Japan, to accelerate the introduction of renewable energies and improve energy efficiency.

For this reason, Japan has provided Official Development Assistance to developing countries in various energy-related fields, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and power generation and transmission. From 2007 to 2011, Japan was, overall, the world's largest bilateral donor among OECD-DAC members in the field of energy, and we will continue to make effective use of ODA to help strengthen comprehensive energy security worldwide (ref. OECD StatExtracts from OECD iLibrary).

Furthermore, Japan will continue to contribute to global energy efficiency by sharing its advanced technologies in energy and the environment, such as its efficient coal- and gas-fired power generation which is the highest in the world.

### **Security of Transport**

While Asia's dependence on the Middle East for its energy supply continues to grow, the security of transport, including that of choke point, is becoming a major area of focus. Japan's ongoing efforts to respond to these challenges include its involvement in anti-piracy response operations off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden, Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), and capacity building programs for coast guard officers.

### **Co-operation with Partner Countries**

As the center of today's energy demand is shifting towards Asia, the relevance of the Partner Countries in the energy market is increasing. Strengthening coordination between the IEA and the Partner Countries is vital for effective global energy governance.

Japan attaches great importance to IEA's outreach activities and has contributed to these activities by sending its experts to Emergency Response Exercises, Emergency Response Assessments and In-Depth Reviews.

In this regard, we welcome the release of the multilateral Joint Declaration with Partner Countries along with the renewal of the bilateral Joint Statements and Work Programs. We would like to stress that these forms of cooperation with Partner Countries should take shape in due course.

### **Conclusion**

Japan expects that the IEA will continue to play a central role in enhancing global energy co-operation through more substantial collaboration with other energy-related international organizations, fora and initiatives.

As we face these new challenges and opportunities, Japan will continue to support the IEA in its efforts to improve energy security through better global energy governance.

Thank you for your attention.