

*(As delivered)*

Message from Mr. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan,  
on the occasion of the 15th International Energy Forum Ministerial

Your Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman Al-Saud,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for the efforts of the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, particularly those of His Excellency Mr. Nouredine Bouterfa, Minister of Energy. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the new Secretary General, Dr. Sun, and express my appreciation for the IEF Secretariat, for the co-hosting countries, Argentine and Kazakhstan, and for all those who have dedicated themselves to bringing about this Ministerial.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the first IEF Ministerial- a place for global energy dialogue. The global energy landscape has changed greatly during the past 25 years. From the point of view of securing a stable supply of energy, as well as transparency in the energy market, the importance of dialogue between energy producing and energy consuming countries is now greater than ever. As such, our expectations for this important forum for global energy dialogue will continue to increase.

**(Global Energy Governance/Architecture)**

Currently, energy-related international organizations, agencies, and fora are discussing World energy governance and architecture in various ways. Emerging countries are increasing their energy demands and we face serious climate change issues worldwide. We are also witnessing wide-ranging energy cooperation, including cross-border gas pipelines and electricity grids, as well as globalization of energy markets, including the “shale revolution” and LNG markets. With all these changes, no country can be an energy island, so to keep pace with these changes, international cooperation is essential.

However, there is no single international energy cooperation framework to cover all the issues. Instead, we have various fora, institutions and organizations that exist in

parallel. Under these circumstances, IEF is the world's largest framework for energy dialogue. The Forum plays an important role in strengthening global energy architecture. In light of the changing roles of traditional exporting and importing countries today, as some traditional exporting countries mentioned yesterday that they no longer consider themselves as sole energy exporter but also as importer of energy, we believe sharing information and views from various standpoint is very important. We think this interaction between various stakeholders is critically important to secure a stable energy supply that can support the world's economic growth while addressing climate change.

### **(Japan's Contribution)**

Let me briefly introduce Japan's efforts in this regard. As one of the world's largest energy consuming countries, Japan is a board member of IEF and IEA and also served as the Chair of IRENA last year. We will also host the Energy Charter ministerial meeting in Tokyo this November, on 25/26 November, and we look forward to welcoming ministers and colleagues around the table in Tokyo. Also, under its G7 Presidency this year, Japan led the discussion at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit and adopted the "Kitakyushu Initiative on Energy Security for Global Growth Joint Statement". It refers to global energy architecture for engaging emerging countries and strengthening global energy.

It is important to deepen the discussion on global energy architecture for the future of sustainable energy in the world. On the occasion of the LNG Producer-Consumer Conference and Energy Charter Conference to be held in Tokyo in late November, a seminar, titled "Global Energy Architecture and its Implications in Asia" will be organized with the confirmed participation of the heads of IEF by Dr. Sun Xiansheng, IEA by Dr. Fatih Birol and Energy charter by Dr. Urban Rusnack on 25 Nov. This seminar aims to review this year's discussion on global energy architecture, including the talks at this IEF Ministerial.

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