

**Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategic Partnership
between
the Government of Japan
and
the Government of the Republic of Poland
for the years 2021-2025**

The Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Poland (Poland):

RECALLING the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations which was commemorated in 2019;

RECALLING the visits of Prime Minister of Japan ABE Shinzo to Poland in 2013 and Prime Minister of Poland Mateusz Morawiecki to Japan in 2020;

RECALLING in particular the milestone decision of the two countries to establish the Strategic Partnership in 2015;

RECOGNIZING the solid ties of friendship between Japan and Poland and the remarkable progress made in the bilateral relations in various areas in recent years;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the common values and principles, in particular democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and their willingness to contribute to peace and prosperity of their respective regions and the international community;

REAFFIRMING the importance of the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) and the Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure between Japan and the EU;

EXPRESSING satisfaction with the successful conclusion of the Action Plan of the strategic partnership between Japan and the Republic of Poland for the years 2017-2020; and

REAFFIRMING the importance of global solidarity, cooperation to defeat the COVID-19 as well as to ensure economic recovery,

HAVE DECIDED to further strengthen the bilateral ties by adopting the following Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategic Partnership and taking the specific actions for the years 2021 – 2025.

1. Political and Security Cooperation

The Governments will make efforts to:

- a) maintain regular high-level contacts between the two countries;
- b) strengthen the political dialogue on current bilateral, regional and global issues, between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries by holding:
 - political consultations at the deputy foreign minister level once in two years; and
 - political consultations at the level of corresponding high-level officials responsible respectively for Europe, Asia and security policy once a year;
- c) deepen dialogue on national security and defense cooperation by:
 - maintaining dialogue of the corresponding high-level officials;
 - signing a bilateral memorandum on defense cooperation and exchanges between ministries of defense; and
- d) explore the possibility of consultations on cyber and digital issues including their security aspects and emerging technology at the level of directors of respective ministries.

2. Economic Cooperation (Infrastructure, Agriculture, Energy, Environment, Science, Technology and Education)

2.1. The Governments will make efforts to create favorable conditions for further deepening and expanding bilateral economic cooperation, trade and investments by:

- a) promoting development of bilateral business relations between Japanese and Polish entities and improving business environments in both countries including sharing knowledge about opportunities and benefits stemming from the Japan-EU EPA;
- b) encouraging activities of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Polish Investment and Trade Agency (PAIH), as well as maintaining existing economic structures, including the Poland-Japan Economic Committee and establishing subcommittees focusing on cooperation in specific industries;
- c) taking steps to start informal consultations on a bilateral agreement on social security;
- d) encouraging for enhancing bilateral cooperation between tax administrations in the field of taxation by sharing information and experiences;
- e) promoting cooperation for the success of EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN; and
- f) cooperating in the area of tourism and enhancing people-to-people exchanges.

2.2 The Governments will encourage deepening cooperation in the field of infrastructure and transport by:

- a) encouraging cooperation among the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, the Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Poland and the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Republic of Poland for Solidarity Transport Hub in relation to the greenfield multimodal transport project called *Solidarity Transport Hub Poland* and to the development of other transport systems;
- b) strengthening cooperation in the field of construction and expansion of high speed railway and conventional railway;
- c) promoting direct air connections between Japan and Poland and enhancing cooperation in the field of aviation;
- d) strengthening cooperation in the field of maritime affairs and transport; and
- e) supporting cooperation in the field of development of intermodal freight rail transport.

2.3. The governments will take steps to maintain and develop cooperation in the field of agriculture by:

- a) facilitating mutual agricultural trade through avoiding unjustified trade barriers by applying science-based control measures with particular focus on food safety, taking into account the existing international standards (e.g. Codex Alimentarius) as well as SPS Agreement of WTO;
- b) increasing regulatory transparency and coordination between the two countries in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary issues; and
- c) developing scientific and research cooperation in the area of agri-food economy, including the implementation of scientific research projects and initiatives as well as sharing experiences and best practices on agri-food economy.

2.4. The governments will seek to enhance cooperation in energy, climate and environmental policy by:

- a) sharing experiences and best practices in the area of climate change mitigation and adaptation, with the emphasis on development of innovative green technologies including CCUS/carbon recycling as well as green cities;
- b) strengthening cooperation in e-mobility, in line with the Governmental Declaration Driving Change Together - Katowice Partnership for E-Mobility, by enhancing cooperation between corresponding entities in Japan and Poland in the area of clean transport (electricity and hydrogen);

- c) enhancing cooperation in the area of scientific research on innovative environmental protection methods, by means of exchange of experiences and best practices in the field of waste management and the circular economy;
- d) fostering cooperation on urban policy, smart-cities management and promoting *The World Urban Forum 2022* in Poland;
- e) maintaining cooperation under the Memorandum of Cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy signed on 30th March 2010 between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Poland by encouraging joint projects and other forms of cooperation;
- f) encouraging research and development cooperation in the field of High Temperature Gas-cooled Reactors (HTGR) between the Japan Atomic Energy Agency and the National Centre for Nuclear Research of Poland, under the auspices of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and the Ministry of Climate and Environment, the Ministry of Economic Development, Labour and Technology, and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Poland, as appropriate;
- g) enhancing cooperation between corresponding entities of Japan and Poland in the area of clean coal technology, including development of Integrated Coal Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) after the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on 15th February 2019 between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Poland; and
- h) encouraging cooperation in the field of hydrogen technology by sharing information and experiences and through dissemination of knowledge on creating and developing national hydrogen strategies.

2.5. The governments will foster cooperation in the field of science and higher education by:

- a) encouraging exchanges of experience between the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Poland, aiming at strengthening their cooperation, encouraging an exchange of students and researchers as well as promoting a future development of joint research projects;
- b) maintaining cooperation related to science and technology between Japan Science and Technology Agency and Poland's National Centre for Research and Development with the view of broadening common research areas;
- c) promoting cooperation in the field of medicinal products and medical devices;
- d) promoting exchanges between universities and other academic institutions; and

- e) encouraging cooperation in the field of higher education, also by taking advantage of programs offered by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange.

3. Cultural and People-to-People Exchanges

The Governments will make efforts to promote cultural and people-to-people exchange on various levels, paying their respects to long traditional cultures of both countries:

- a) promoting exchanges of artists and cultural specialists as well as students and academics of arts universities;
- b) welcoming cooperation and exchange programs in the field of music, particularly having in mind the Chopin International Piano Competition;
- c) promoting the popularity of Washoku (Japanese cuisine) and Kuchnia Polska (Polish cuisine) in each country;
- d) encouraging the education and the study of each other's language and culture on various levels;
- e) supporting exchanges of young people under the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Poland on a Working Holiday Scheme to facilitate people-to-people exchanges;
- f) developing exchange programs for representatives of local administrations;
- g) creating a stimulus for regional cooperation between the two countries, i.a. by preparing a preliminary list of potential candidates of the cities and regions to be twinned;
- h) promoting exchanges of athletes, coaches, sport experts and organizers of sport events in order to develop mutual cooperation in the field of sport, also in the view of the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 in the summer of 2021 and its Host Town Initiative; and
- i) promoting exchanges of students including through Japan's Friendship Ties Programs "MIRAI".

4. Multilateral Cooperation

4.1 The Governments will complement their bilateral relations by:

- a) cooperating closely within the framework of the United Nations system, particularly in the field of human rights, bearing in mind the membership of Japan and Poland in the Human Rights Council (2020-2022), particularly to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world; as well as in the efforts to achieve an early reform of the UN Security Council;

- b) conducting closer dialogue within the framework of Japan-EU cooperation;
- c) initiating a dialogue on issues of regional and global importance at the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) platform;
- d) pursuing projects and consultations within the framework of Visegrad Group (V4) + Japan cooperation;
- e) developing cooperation through NATO;
- f) further cooperating in the Governing Council of the Community of Democracies; and
- g) considering a possibility of cooperation within the Three Seas Initiative.

4.2 The Governments will promote the common values and principles in the international and regional arenas by:

- a) ensuring their commitment to the principle of inviolability of borders, in particular with regard to the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, and to the non-recognition policy toward illegal annexation of the Crimean peninsula;
- b) opposing any coercive or unilateral actions in the East China Sea and South China Sea and reaffirming the importance of freedom of navigation, and pursuing peaceful resolution of maritime disputes in the South China Sea, in accordance with international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
- c) supporting the full implementation and enforcement of multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control treaties and regimes, by using means at their disposal to assist in resolving proliferation crises, such as in the case of North Korea - urging North Korea to refrain from any provocation, to fully comply with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, to take concrete actions toward denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and to respect basic human rights, including returning of all abductees at the earliest possible date;
- d) promoting cooperation to realize a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP);
- e) maintaining regional cooperation, particularly with regard to the Eastern Partnership and other EU-neighboring countries; and
- f) confirming our resolve to counter disinformation, in line with shared principles such as freedom of expression and the rule of law.

5. Other important matters

5.1. This Action Plan does not constitute an international agreement between the Governments. Nothing in this Action Plan is regarded as creating legally binding rights or obligations for the Governments.

- 5.2. Any differences arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Action Plan will be resolved amicably through consultations between the Governments.
- 5.3. This Action Plan implementation progress will be subject to annual assessments by the Governments through political consultation.
- 5.4. This Action Plan will commence on 6 May 2021, and end on 31 December 2025.
- 5.5. This Action Plan may be modified at any time with the mutual written consent of the Governments.

SIGNED in duplicate in Warsaw, on the 6th of May, 2021, in the English language.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
JAPAN**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**