Video Message by H.E. MOTEGI Toshimitsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

At the Ministerial Meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism in the margins of the High Level Week of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly

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I highly appreciate this initiative by Heiko and Jean-Yves. It is beneficial for us all to discuss today's themes—including the fight against the pandemic, climate change, human rights, and gender equality—when we are faced with the global spread of COVID-19, which has made cooperation among the international community and multilateralism more important than ever.

With the achievement of universal health coverage in mind, Japan has committed to providing multidimensional assistance amounting to 3.9 billion USD to address the COVID-19 pandemic. In June, Japan co-hosted the COVAX AMC Summit together with Gavi and announced a pledge of 1 billion USD to the COVAX AMC. Japan has provided approximately 23 million doses of vaccines to date, making Japan the world's third largest contributor of vaccines donation. With upcoming additional contributions included, Japan will provide up to approximately 60 million vaccine doses in total. Japan is also carrying out "Last One Mile Support" in nearly 60 countries to aid cold storage and transportation to ensure that vaccine deliveries reach every individual. Japan intends to further expand such efforts going forward.

Furthermore, in order to promote gender equality, Japan has contributed 30 million USD to UN Women and other organizations to support women and girls.

The fight against climate change and to conserve the world's biodiversity are also issues that the international community must tackle together. Japan has decided to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and aim to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 46% in fiscal year 2030. We have also joined an initiative aiming to conserve 30% of global land and oceans.

Innovation is key to achieving such high-level targets, and Japan will make the utmost use of its world-leading technologies in areas such as hydrogen and ammonium that contribute to decarbonization.

Japan will continue to play a leading role in addressing climate change and biodiversity loss, including by contributing to the upcoming discussions at COP26 and the discussions at COP15 on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

Japan would like to further enhance cooperation based on multilateralism together with the like-minded countries attending today.