

**Remarks by State Minister WASHIO Eiichiro
at United Nation High-level Dialogue on Energy**

- I would like to commend Secretary-General Guterres for his leadership in making this meeting possible, and I thank all those involved for their efforts.
- The spread of COVID-19 has shed light on the challenges in securing a stable supply of social services, including energy, as well as its severe impact on vulnerable populations.
- The achievement of the SDGs by 2030 is still some ways off.
- As SDG 7 stipulates, it is critically important to ensure energy access for achieving sustainable development and economic recovery from the pandemic, while also achieving human security.
- However, disparity in energy access is increasing, and the challenges in addressing energy poverty is not limited to developing countries.

- To achieve SDG 7, it is essential to ensure affordable energy. However, we should not focus exclusively on affordability and disregard reliability and sustainability.
- A balanced approach is required, and since the circumstances surrounding energy vary from country to country and region to region, we must take appropriate and tailored measures.
- The path to achieving SDG 7 is similar to climbing a mountain, where we all are aiming for the same summit.
- Each one of us needs to look at the map beforehand and consider the best route to the summit, with each of us taking a different route.
- It is essential that each of us chooses equipment which addresses our specific needs.
- Japan will continue to support the achievement of SDG 7 by providing various means of technology and innovation so that each country can steadily follow the selected path.
- In doing so, we will place importance on listening to the voices of those at the site and joining forces with them.

- This is one example of an initiative by a Japanese company.
- In areas like the Islands of the Philippines, which are frequently hit by typhoons, face a significant challenge in supplying a stable power supply using renewable energy.
- A Japanese company is addressing this challenge through the introduction of a project utilizing wind power generation technology called “Magnus Wind Turbine,” a propellerless wind turbine developed to generate stable power even in strong winds.
- This is an example of sustainable energy access and local production for local consumption of energy.
- As we have entered a decade of action, while urgent concrete actions are needed, it is also essential to take steps to ensure that nobody is stepped off of the path or delayed. Japan will continue making contributions toward the achievement of SDG 7, which will fulfill the needs of each country.
- I thank you very much for your kind attention.

(END)