Video message on Japanese commitment by Mr. KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan on the occasion of the Summit for Democracy on 9 December 2021

Ladies and gentlemen,

My administration attaches great importance to universal values, including democracy and human rights.

Japan believes that in order to make democracy take root in a country, it is important to stand and work with that country. The path to stable democracy is never smooth in any country. Development of democracy is never straightforward, and it takes a certain amount of time. I am convinced that respecting the efforts of each country based on its own historical background will contribute to the consolidation of democracy.

From this perspective, Japan will focus on supporting human resource development around the world. Japan will also continue to share its experiences and knowledge on building institutions, including judicial systems, to ensure that election results reflect the will of the people. Furthermore, Japan commits to promoting responsible business conduct.

Furthermore, in order to safeguard a solid democracy at home in Japan, it is necessary to address the economic aspect, that is, to prevent the division between the rich and the poor, and to protect the middle class, who are at the heart of a robust democracy. I will bring concrete shape to a new form of capitalism that realizes both growth and distribution and take the lead in tackling the challenges facing the world and this era.

Thank you very much.