

G7 Elmau Summit side-event on Infrastructure Investment

Speech by Prime Minister Kishida

I welcome Joe and Olaf's initiative.

Infrastructure investment is essential for promoting global productivity and prosperity. Infrastructure such as ports, railroads, and airports that supports economic activities and people's lives forms the foundation of national development.

However, responding to infrastructure demand merely in terms of quantity is not sufficient. For example, infrastructure projects that require relatively low initial cost may lack economic efficiency when accounting for the entire life-cycle cost. If a recipient country defaults on its debt due to an unfeasible debt repayment plan, it will impede the country's growth.

Therefore, the G7 countries should work together to promote quality infrastructure investment according to the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment", which include an emphasis on transparency, openness, economic efficiency and debt sustainability.

From this perspective, Japan is announcing that we will seek to mobilize more than 65 billion USD of infrastructure assistance and private finance over the next five years.

In addition to challenges such as COVID-19 and climate change, the global economy is facing soaring prices of energy, food, and other commodities, as well as supply chain disruptions caused by the aggression against Ukraine. Quality infrastructure investment is also essential to address these issues.

Development of quality infrastructure is also important for the realization of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific." In the region, Japan will work to develop railroads and airports that contribute to regional

connectivity, improve ports that enhance maritime security, and strengthen economic security, including cyber security.

Japan will strengthen its diplomatic efforts including by utilizing international cooperation funded by the ODA in an appropriate, efficient, and strategic manner, while expanding ODA. Also, we will continue to deepen cooperation with the international community including the G7.