

International Conference in support of Ukraine's civil resilience

13 December 2022 in Paris

Statement by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs

YOSHIKAWA Yuumi

My name is YOSHIKAWA Yuumi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.

Let me begin by expressing my respect to President Macron and President Zelensky, the co-hosts of this conference. I would also like to reiterate our solidarity with the Ukrainian people, who are fighting to protect their homeland and families from Russia's aggression in the midst of a harsh winter.

Japan has so far announced and provided approximately USD 1.1 billion in humanitarian, financial, and food-related support for Ukraine and its neighboring countries affected by Russia's aggression. Japan has also been receiving persons who have fled from Ukraine to third countries and providing them with assistance.

Currently, we see much of Ukraine's energy infrastructure destroyed by Russia's attacks, causing massive blackouts across the country. These attacks on civilian infrastructure are unacceptable and Japan strongly condemns them.

As the harsh winter sets in, we must prevent further deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

Given the situation in Ukraine, in November, the Government of Japan decided to provide Emergency Grant Aid of USD 2.57 million for generators and solar lanterns, and we have already started delivering these items to reach people in Ukraine as soon as possible. In addition, this month, the Government of Japan allocated a supplementary budget of approximately USD 500 million to provide additional support, including further winterization assistance for Ukraine and its neighboring countries.

As for support going forward, we will provide necessary humanitarian assistance together with support for Ukraine's recovery and

reconstruction, in cooperation with international organizations, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and Japanese NGOs. Our focus will be on urgent humanitarian assistance and strengthening the civilian resilience of the Ukrainian people, in keeping with the main theme of this conference. As part of this, we will continue to provide energy-related support in the form of generators and other emergency supplies. For example, in addition to winterization assistance, we plan to provide practical assistance in areas including mine and debris removal, temporary housing, hospitals, schools, and electricity.

As the G7 chair next year, we intend to double down on cooperation with the other G7 countries and the entire international community. Japan will play a proactive role in supporting the Ukrainian people, utilizing the knowledge and experience that Japan has built up through reconstruction initiatives in other countries to date.

Japan stands firmly with Ukraine. Thank you very much.