

Concept of the "Human Security"

'Human Security'

A concept that advances the nation and community building through empowerment and protection of individuals to live happily and in dignity, free from fear and want.

Freedom to live in dignity



Human security of the new era (Address at the 2020 United Nations General Assembly)

Global Issues Cooperation Division
October 2, 2020

Discussions so far

- In the 1990s, the 'Human Development Report' by the UNDP raised the concept of human security. Since then, Japan has upheld the concept as an important pillar of Japan's foreign policy, and has taken proactive initiatives to disseminate it.
- After the 2003 final report of the 'Commission on Human Security' co-chaired by then UN High Commissioner for Refugees, late Sadako Ogata, and Professor Amartya Sen, and the following discussions of the various for a at the United Nations, shared understandings on the human security at the United Nations have been established by the adoption of the UN resolution on human security in 2012.
- In 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted in the UN. SDGs set a central concept of 'leaving no one behind' as the human centered universal development goals.
- In the context of the coronavirus pandemic, the significance of the concept of human security is gathering attention once again.

Remarks on the human security in the address of Prime Minister Suga at the UN General Assembly

- The spread of the coronavirus is a human security crisis, posing a threat the lives, livelihoods and dignity.
- Japan will proactively lead international efforts to set the goal of 'leaving no one's health behind' as we work towards achieving universal health coverage.
- ✓ Safeguard the lives from the novel coronavirus diseases: Japan fully supports the development of therapeutics, vaccines and diagnostics, and works towards ensuring fair and equitable access for all, and is also proposing a framework of patent pooling.
- ✓ Prepare ourselves for future health crisis: Japan will assist strengthening health and medical systems through providing equipment and supporting human resource development, and is supporting the establishment of an ASEAN Center for public health emergencies and emerging diseases and the Africa Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention. We are witnessing the concrete result of Japan's cooperation through the TICAD process in the health sector.
- ✓ Japan will continue to improve the conditions of water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and other environment factors to ensure health security in an even broader context. In response to the current crisis, Japan has provided foreign aid of over ¥170 million (US\$1.54 billion to medical and health sector).
- It is critically important to take steps towards revitalizing the economies hit hard by the crisis. To bolster economic activities in developing countries, Japan is implementing the Emergency Support Loan of up to ¥500 billion (US\$4.5 billion) over the course of two years. Japan will continue to promote WTO reform and economic partnership agreements. Japan, for its part, will work on digitalization.
- We must look to the human security concept of the new era in responding various challenges, accelerating efforts to achieve SDGs and tackle global issues. To this end, Propose that we tap into the wisdom from around the world to deepen our discussions.