

### The 13th Science and Technology Ministers' Roundtable

1. Date and time: October 2, 2016 (Sun.), 13:30-15:30
2. Venue: Annex 1, Kyoto International Conference Center, (Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto)
3. Participants: Ministers responsible for Science and Technology Policy, science advisers to the head of states and other representatives from 23 countries (including Japan - see list attached)
4. Theme: Vision for the Future Society and the Roles of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

#### Discussion Points

1. What is the ideal relationship between science and technology and future society?
2. What are the key issues to be addressed in each country toward realizing an ideal future society?
3. What is the international cooperation that is needed for the future society?

#### 5. Roundtable Overview:

i) The Roundtable was chaired by Mr. Yosuke Tsuruho, Japan's Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy. Minister Tsuruho's opening remarks covered the following points:

- With respect to "The Science and Technology Basic Plan" which is the basis for promoting Japanese science and technology innovation policy, Japan started "The 5th Science and Technology Basic Plan" for 5 years from this April.
- In the basic plan, we set out "Society 5.0" that puts people at the center and proposes the future of a prosperous society.
- Japan is working on the creation of a health and longevity society based on the most advanced medical technology in the world, promotion of women's active participation, development of human resources who will be responsible for the next generation, strengthening of international research network, promotion of inclusive innovation, promotion of open science, etc., and to establish cooperative relations on a global scale as one of the advanced countries in the world on issues.
- As a G7 president country, Japan held "G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting in Tsukuba, Ibaraki" in May this year. Based on the idea of "Society 5.0", 6 topics were discussed, and concrete actions that hold "Global Health", "Expansion of Women's Participation and Next Generation of Human Resources" and "Open Science", etc., were made up as "Tsukuba Communiqué" and disseminated to the world.

With respect to vision for the future society and the roles of science, technology and innovation, Minister Tsuruho stressed the need for solving problems such as resource depletion and environmental pollution in developed countries and other countries around the world in order to grow the global economy soundly and sustainably. He also made remarks on sustainable development of energy, the environment, and the economy for a peaceful and stable international society. He called for the exchange of opinions so that participating countries can deepen mutual understanding and build a collaborative network.

ii) Next, Mr. Yoshio Yamawaki, Japan's Director General for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, introduced the idea of "Society 5.0", and case studies illustrating how science and technology is utilized for the construction of future society, in order to lead the discussion. He also introduced Japan's science and technology innovation strategy (beginning of "The 5th Science and Technology Basic Plan"), "Tsukuba Communiqué" as a result of the "G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting in Tsukuba, Ibaraki", and efforts towards global issues through international cooperation.

iii) An open discussion session followed, covering the following points:

- (1) In order to think about the future society from science and technology, a participating country has committees on science and technology and advisory board in the government by setting science and technology innovation as the core of economic policy, and strategies of science and technology innovation were implemented on the evidence base.
- (2) Participants came to a shared consensus on the importance of recognition of the role of science and technology innovation on a global scale by taking efforts to solve problems of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and The 21st session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 21), etc., by sharing their goals.
- (3) It was pointed out that to form a future society, science and technology innovation policies are important not only for managing resources but also for building industrial and social structures. Moreover, human resource development is an indispensable factor, and not only training but also exchange between countries are important, and investment in young talent is necessary.
- (4) It was pointed out that each country accumulates traditional knowledge according to the characteristics of the area, and it becomes possible to pass it on to the future by incorporating these into scientific approaches. It is also important to promote open science and create a platform to learn knowledge in order to share such traditional knowledge.

iv) In closing, Minister Tsuruho formally expressed his gratitude to participants from each country. He stated that through this meeting, we were able to deepen awareness of the role that science and technology innovation should play in order to realize a future society, the importance of international collaboration, etc., and to understand the circumstances of each participating country. He also expressed his hope of the resolution of various global cooperation and collaboration among participating countries and the strengthening of a sustainable foundation for that, in order to solve global issues that can not be resolved by only one country.

#### 6. Working Lunch

Prior to the Ministerial Meeting, Minister Tsuruho hosted a working lunch as a networking place for attendees and exchanged opinions. On this occasion, Ms. Yuko Harayama, Executive Member, Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, had a keynote lecture on "Artificial Intelligence (AI)" and "Society 5.0".

## 7. Bilateral Talks

Minister Tsuruho held bilateral talks with the following ministers and representatives:

- Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj, Minister of Science and Technology (Thailand)
- Dr. Stefan Borisov Vodenicharov, President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Bulgaria)
- Dr. Mohammed Farhady, Minister of Science Research and Technology (Iran)
- Prof. Dr. Fidel Castro, Diaz-Balart Scientific Advisor; Vice president, Cuban Sciences Academy (Cuba)