

## The 18<sup>th</sup> Science and technology Ministers' Roundtable

1. Date and time: October 2nd (Sat), 2021, 20:00-21:30
2. Format: Online
3. Participants: Ministers responsible for Science and Technology (S&T) policy, science advisers to the head of states, and other representatives from 43 countries including Japan. (List attached.)
4. Theme:  
Global Challenges for the Post-COVID-19 World (e.g. Green Innovation)
5. Roundtable Summaries

(1) HE Inoue, Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, Japan, chaired the Roundtable. As opening remarks, he stated that in order to solve various global issues such as COVID-19 and climate change, it is essential to make appropriate use of science and technology as well as to work together on international cooperation. He also explained that at this roundtable, he would like to exchange views with other countries on the kinds of science, technology and innovation initiatives that are being taken to solve global issues toward achieving a post-COVID world.

(2) After the inaugural address by Dr. Komiyama, Chairman, Science and Technology in Society forum (STS forum), HE Inoue and HE Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, made a lead speech for discussion. HE Inoue introduced Japan's initiatives in science, technology and innovation as follows:

- Promotion of open science through discussions at the G7 Open Science WG co-chaired by the EU and Japan
- Promotion of DFFT (Data Free Flow with Trust)
- Support to formulate STI for SDGs roadmaps and promotion of international research collaboration for developing countries together

with ODA under the science and technology cooperation agreements with many countries

- Launch of the 6th Science, Technology and Innovation Basic Plan, which aims to achieve Society 5.0

(3) With moderation by Dr. Ueyama, Executive Member of the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, Japan, participating countries exchanged views on their measures in line with the theme of the Roundtable. Points made by participating countries include the following:

- International cooperation is essential in responding to COVID-19. In addition, open science and open innovation are important and need to be funded.
- Investments in science and technology need to be continued in the future.
- AI, IoT, blockchain technology, and active digitization are also important to overcome the crisis caused by the spread of COVID-19

(4) Dr. UEYAMA wrapped up the discussion and shared the points that the COVID-19 pandemic reaffirmed the importance of international cooperation. He also shared the view that we need to invest in science and technology and promote open science in order for the world to collectively address COVID-19.

(5) Lastly, Minister Inoue made closing remarks.