

The 21st Science and Technology Ministers' Roundtable

1. Date and time:

October 6th (Sun.), 2024, 12:10-14:50

2. Venue:

Annex Hall, Kyoto International Conference Center

3. Participants:

Ministers responsible for science and technology (S&T) policy, science advisers to the head of states, and other representatives from 19 countries including Japan. (List attached.)

4. Theme:

Transformative science, technology and innovation policy to strengthen innovation ecosystems

5. Summary:

(1) Mr. Kiuchi, Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, Japan, chaired the Roundtable. As opening remarks, he stated that in order to solve global issues such as climate change and to promote appropriate social implementation of advanced technologies such as generative AI, 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, under the theme of 'transformative science, technology and innovation policy to strengthen innovation ecosystems', he would like to exchange opinions about the innovation ecosystem being aimed by each country, the policies being implemented to realize it, and the cross-border collaboration in innovation ecosystems.

(2) After the remarks by Dr. Komiyama, Chairman of the Science and Technology in Society forum (STS forum), Mr. Kakita, Director General of the Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, Cabinet

Office, Japan, introduced background information and outline of the theme of the Roundtable as follows:

- Startups have been rapidly growing worldwide to surpass traditional large companies in very short periods of time. These have generated major trends in transforming industrial structures as well as urban structures and lifestyles.
- Japan is aiming for a society where startups are born in succession to tackle social issues and drive social transformation, and where new values are continuously created.
- Japan formulated 'strategies for creation of startup ecosystem to compete with the world top ecosystems' and 'the Global Startup Campus Initiative' to realize such an innovation ecosystem.

(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, and shared various current approaches to innovation ecosystems in different countries and regions such as development of entrepreneurial human resources, support for knowledge transfer and business development from universities and research institutions.

(4) Dr. Ueyama wrapped up the discussion.

(5) Lastly, Minister Kiuchi made closing remarks.