

The 22nd Science and Technology Ministers' Roundtable

1. Date and time:

October 5th (Sun.), 2025, 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 15 countries including Japan. (List attached.)

4. Theme:

Science, Technology, and Innovation for the Future Society

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 'Science, Technology, and Innovation for the Future Society', 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 STS forum, Mr. Fukunaga, Director-General for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, Cabinet Office of Japan, introduced background information and outline of the theme of the Roundtable as follows:

- In a world changing at an unprecedented pace, complex social issues are emerging; in this context, science, technology, and innovation driven by advanced technologies can serve as vital tools for solving these challenges and envisioning the future.
- Japan has proposed "Society 5.0" as its vision for the future society and is pursuing initiatives such as the "Moonshot Research and Development Program" to bring this vision to life.
- The rapid advancement of AI is bringing about various social transformations; to address the new challenges arising from this progress, Japan is advancing initiatives such as the "Hiroshima AI Process" and the "AI Act."

(3) With moderation by Dr. Miyazono, Executive Member of the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, Japan, participants exchanged views on initiatives in their respective countries in line with the theme of the roundtable. They shared a recognition of the importance of science, technology, and innovation for achieving a sustainable and inclusive future society. Participants pointed out the necessity of balancing international regulatory frameworks and ethics with the promotion of innovation in the advancement of cutting-edge technologies—particularly AI—as well as the vital need to rebuild trust in science through interactive communication between scientists and the public and the enhancement of scientific literacy.

(4) Dr. Miyazono wrapped up the discussion.

(5) Lastly, Minister Kiuchi made closing remarks.