

Climate & Energy Breakout Session Proposal (Draft)

At the COP24 held in Poland in December last year, the rules for operating the Paris Agreement which came into effect in 2016 were agreed upon. Due to the conclusion of this session, implementation of the Paris Agreement will start from 2020 accordingly. Each actor will take measures to achieve the goal of holding the increase in the average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and limiting the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.

In October of last year, the IPCC issued the '1.5 °C Special Report' in response to the COP requests. The '1.5 °C Special Report' compares 2 °C and 1.5 °C increases in the average temperature since pre-industrial era, and reveals just how much of a difference there is in between the effects of these temperatures. If we continue as we are, the temperature increase will exceed a further 1.5 °C from 2030 to 2052. In order to keep that increase below 1.5 °C, it is necessary to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to a near 'net zero' by around 2050, with measures prior to 2030 considered to be crucial.

Each country's current emission reduction targets do not meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. Some governments, local governments and companies have already raised their targets and strengthened policies to realize a carbon-free society, but in order to meet the Paris Agreement targets, *all* countries, local governments and companies need to increase emission reduction goals, and radically strengthen their measures.

Greta Thunberg, a high school student in Sweden, started school strike for climate on every Friday which sparks global movements to call for strengthening climate action led by kids and youth. They have demonstrated in more than 4200 cities under "Fridays For Future" so far, it is still expanding rapidly.

On the one hand, the Japanese government announced a 'Long-term growth strategy based the Paris Agreement' (draft/tentative naming) in April, but without raising the CO₂ reduction target for 2030, and continuing use of coal and nuclear power, the goal of introducing renewable energy remains low. This policy promotes neither the achievement of the Paris Agreement targets, nor a carbon-free society.

We must become aware of rapid movement on a global scale toward the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the realization of a carbon-free society around the world. And we must also reexamine the connection between Kansai and the rest of the world as non-state actors to advance an energy policy that promotes the dissemination of renewable energy, decarbonization, denuclearization, the promotion of renewable energy, and an effective climate policy.

Based on the aforementioned situation at hand and issues in Japan, the Climate and Energy Breakout Session makes the following recommendations for the G20 OSAKA Citizens' Summit.

- To civil society (including NGOs and NPOs) in Osaka and the greater Kansai region
 - Share awareness of the worsening of climate change, the warning of the IPCC 1.5 °C Special Report, the importance of the Paris Agreement, and the impact on local society, economy and livelihoods. Reaffirm the connection between the world and Kansai, and generate information for others of this.
 - Think and act in unison regarding the role and action of civilian society in order to implement the Paris Agreement and energy policy change.

- To local administrations, businesses and community members in Osaka and the greater Kansai region

- Practice specific measures to prevent global warming, such as energy saving steps and power shifts ¹ in each of your positions within local communities, companies, and households etc.
- Join the 100% renewable energy declaration, and share about participation in Japan Climate Initiative(JCI)².
- Support activities to move towards carbon free society, denuclearization, and the spread of renewable energy.
- Practice and disseminate efforts to move towards a carbon free society, power shifts, and divestment (stop investing fossil fuel projects).
- Implement and support Just transition ³ in the labor force associated with climate change measures.

➤ To the Japanese government

- Raise the GHG emission reduction target substantially, and change its energy policy for decarbonization, denuclearization, and 100% renewable energy, in order to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- Recognize that it is the sixth largest source of CO₂ emissions in the world, stop exporting coal-fired thermal power and aim for decarbonization in cooperation with other countries.
- In addition to stopping the restart of domestic nuclear power plants, also stop exports of nuclear power plants from Japan to overseas.

➤ To the international community

- Strengthen cooperation for the full implementation of the Paris Agreement.
- Request G20 participating governments to raise their emission reduction targets much higher than those of the NDC and submit strengthened NDC to UN until 2020.
- Promote cooperation for the phase out of fossil fuels, and increase in use of renewable energy.
- Keep the increase of temperature to 1.5 °C, and strengthen partnerships to achieve fair economy and societal development, and to remove disparities and eradicate poverty. Promote support for developing countries.

(Note)

1 Power Shift: Choosing a company that aims to supply and sell electricity from mainly sustainable and renewable energy sources.

2 JCI: A network to strengthen information dissemination and exchange of opinions among companies, local governments, NGOs, etc. that actively work on climate change measures called 'Climate Change Initiative'. (<https://japanclimate.org/>)

3 Just Transition: Smooth employment migration which will accompany the progress of climate change measures, with participation and action when necessary, especially during the "relaxation" phase.

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