

【Check Against Delivery】

OSCE ASIAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION GROUP MEETING
**“Global economic engagement in the Indo-Pacific for peace,
prosperity and security”**
Statement of Japan

11 October 2024

Dear Mr. Moderator, and Distinguished Speakers,

First, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to Australia and the Chair of the Asian Partners for Co-operation, North Macedonia, for co-hosting today's APCG meeting.

Today's topic, “economic security”, could not be timelier than ever before. As the security of the Indo-Pacific region and that of Europe are inseparable, it is imperative for OSCE Participating Countries and Asian Partners for Co-operation to jointly tackle a wide array of challenges, let alone economic security.

Mr. Moderator,

In the field of economic security, a wide range of significant risks are emerging, such as supply chain disruption resulting from overdependence on specific countries for critical goods. Disruption of stable operations of critical infrastructure such as telecommunication networks is another major risk. We are particularly concerned about these risks in the Indo-Pacific region, which accounts for 60% of global GDP.

In March 2023, Japan updated its concept for a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific”. Under this new concept, we have been enhancing the connectivity across the Indo-Pacific region, aiming to promote freedom, the rule of law, and other universal values that counter coercive activities and lead to prosperity for all. We believe that our new FOIP has been well received by the international community and will contribute to enhancing our economic security as well.

Dear Mr. Moderator,

Japan takes a comprehensive approach to strengthen economic security, in accordance with Japan's National Security Strategy formulated in December 2022. Moreover, Japan enacted the Act on the Promotion of Ensuring National Security through Integrated Implementation of Economic Measures in 2022, under which the Japanese government establishes a basic policy on economic security.

Against such backdrop, Japan has been doubling down on its efforts including in eliminating vulnerabilities, inter alia, in key infrastructure or supply chains, enhancing technological and industrial competitiveness through strengthening research and development and conducting strategic export control on sensitive technologies. In this context, we have been promoting collaboration with private sectors as well as with the international community.

At the 2023 Hiroshima G7 Summit under Japan's presidency, Japan picked up "economic security" as one of main agendas and achieved some tangible results such as a main communique referring to economic security as well as a separate statement on "economic resilience and economic security". This is the first time that the G7 member states concurred to cooperating in ensuring economic security. Remarkably, this initiative was passed on to G7 Apulia Summit this year. Thanks to the strong Italian leadership, the member states shared the view to further reinforce their commitments to promote economic resilience and economic security. We hope that the international community will raise awareness of the importance of economic security through such efforts by the G7.

Dear Mr. Moderator,

Japan is determined to continue playing a leading role in enhancing economic security.

To this end, Japan is fully committed to further closely cooperate with the international community, including the OSCE, its Participating States, Partners for Co-operation as well as our partners around the globe.

I thank you.