

**Remarks by Minoru Terada, State Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications,
at G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting**

My name is TERADA Minoru, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications.

First of all, I highly appreciate the leadership of the Saudi Presidency, which has taken over the last year's achievements, including the G20 AI Principles and concept of the data free flow with trust (DFFT), and made every effort to deepen the discussion. I strongly support the proposed Ministerial Declaration.

For the development and utilization of AI, it is essential to promote the implementation of the G20 AI Principles, based on the human-centered concept agreed at last year's G20. Japan appreciates Saudi Arabia's efforts to compile AI policies and AI strategies of each country into a policy collection. For the implementation of the AI Principles, Japan has developed a non-binding AI Utilization Guideline for users to voluntarily take measures corresponding to the AI Principles when using AI. Japan supports the voluntary response of AI users and companies by soft law and promotes the implementation of responsible AI without impeding free business activities. We wish to continue sharing these experiences with other countries at the G20, OECD, and other opportunities of international discussions and contribute to the promotion of the implementation of the G20 AI Principles.

Regarding the concept of DFFT, it is essential to address the issues surrounding data distribution, such as privacy and security, and increase trust from consumers and businesses. It is important to continue sending that message from G20. Since DFFT is particularly essential, MAKIHARA Hideki, Deputy Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, will make remarks about it later. Based on Japan's Overseas Development Activity Plan, which Japan announced in May of this year, Japan will contribute to improving the reliability of data flow in countries around the world by using information and communications technology. At the same time, through the initiatives at the Osaka Track, which was launched at the G20 Osaka Summit last year, Japan will continue promoting international discussions on the digital economy rules based on the DFFT concept at OECD and other opportunities.

The promotion of security is becoming more critical as our dependence on information and communications technology is increasing due to the outbreak of the COVID-19. Let me reiterate the importance of discussions on security in the digital economy with multiple stakeholders and appreciate the draft Ministerial Declaration that reflects this.

Lastly, I would like to appreciate the results of the extraordinary meeting held in April to counter the COVID-19. The role of digital technology in the control of the COVID-19 is

significant. Japan is currently working with the ITU to launch a project to improve connectivity to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 in developing countries, especially in the African region, and to prepare for a new normal.

Thank you all for listening so attentively.

Again, I appreciate the efforts of the Saudi Arabia Presidency in this challenging year.