



June 16, 2022

Summary of Remarks by JGA Chair HONJO Takehiro

1. Interim Clean Energy Strategy

The Interim Clean Energy Strategy was presented at the May 13th joint meeting of the Clean Energy Strategy Study Group of the Japanese Government.

Amidst growing concerns about stable energy supply in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine crisis, the Interim Arrangement outlines policies to accelerate decarbonization while taking all steps to ensure energy security.

In the area of natural resources and fuels in "Ensuring Energy Security," with regard to reducing Russia's dependence on fossil fuels, the report states that the government will strengthen its involvement in supporting upstream development, emergency measures for fuel supply, and LNG procurement, as well as diversification of energy sources, and that it will work with major consuming countries to encourage producing countries to increase their production of LNG. The report also clearly states that the government will work with major consuming countries to increase production in the producing countries.

In the area of strengthening the fuel supply system, the report indicated the direction of promoting fuel conversion and the development and demonstration of synthetic methane through the continuous enhancement of resilient gas infrastructure and the utilization of such infrastructure.

In "Economic, Social, and Industrial Structural Reforms Toward a

Carbon-Neutral Society," the need for "technological development" of synthetic methane and "development of rules for CO₂ emissions" was clearly indicated.

Regarding "support measures for synthetic methane based on cost differences," it was clearly stated that, based on the arrangement that synthetic methane is a form of renewable energy and hydrogen use, and that no new CO₂ will be emitted, support measures will be considered to expand its introduction, focusing on cost differences with existing fuels and other factors. We would like to promote the introduction of synthetic methane by taking advantage of these support measures.

2. "Carbon Neutral Challenge 2050" Action Plan Status

One year has passed since the announcement last June, and each business has been promoting the shift to natural gas, etc., which contributes to low-carbon emissions, as well as steadily working with the government and related industries to develop technologies, acquire environmental value, and study supply chain construction, etc., for social implementation of methanation.

We will continue to accelerate our efforts to realize the Action Plan.

3. 2025 Osaka-Kansai Expo Gas Pavilion

The Japan Gas Association outlined the concept of the Gas Pavilion exhibit at the May 30 "Private Sector Pavilion Exhibitor Presentation" meeting.

Through the exhibition, the gas industry would like to continue to stand by the future society filled with diversity and firmly convey its commitment to the global challenge of carbon neutrality.

Although the specifics will be worked out in the future, the goal is to create a "visitor-participation entertainment pavilion" that will remain in the memories of visitors, especially the young people and children who will lead the next generation and provide them with an original experience that will nurture their rich spirit.