

**Statement at the Closing Event of Rio Conventions Pavilion
at UNFCCC COP17**

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Good afternoon, distinguished participants, ladies and gentleman.

It is my pleasure to address at the closing event of Rio Conventions Pavilion on behalf of the COP10 Presidency to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The issues of climate change, desertification and biodiversity are all interrelated. Climate change and desertification would have an impact on biodiversity, and so does biodiversity on climate change and desertification. This simple fact leads us to the acknowledgement that the collaboration among those issues is essential.

Against this background therefore, CBD COP10 also adopted the decision on “Biodiversity and climate change”, which includes consideration of joint activities between three Rio conventions, namely CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD, towards Rio+20 to be held in the coming year.

Moreover, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted at CBD COP10 also advocates as its *target 15* the contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification through ecosystem conservation and restoration.

I recognize that the Rio Conventions Pavilion has a meaningful effect on the work to promote the synergy of the three Rio conventions. I hereby extend my appreciation to the secretariat of this event and participants from governments, intergovernmental organizations, and NGOs for their efforts to organize this ten-day event.

As a contribution to climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, the efforts implemented under REDD+ are critical. In addition to a contribution of 10 million dollars to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, known as “FCPF”, Japan has been engaged in proactive efforts such as bilateral technical cooperation through JICA and feasibility study.

And furthermore, Japan has an intention to exercise its leadership in other efforts to contribute to climate change, biodiversity and desertification through concrete and quantitative studies and through international cooperation.

Today’s event themed “Looking forward to Rio+20” reminds us that the issues of “green economy” and “institutional framework”, both of which will be key issues at Rio+20 as a matter of fact, are important themes for sustainable development.

The *Strategic goal D* of the Aichi Targets aims to enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services, and I believe that the achievement of those targets will contribute significantly to the success of Rio+20 as well as the realization of sustainable development.

In closing, I'm strongly convinced that our active discussion throughout this ten-day pavilion will be a very good catalyst for our joint work toward fruitful Rio+20.

Thank you for your attention.