

Progress report of commitments from the Global Leader's Summit
as of 2016, JAPAN

Promoting women's active participation in society is the centerpiece of Japan's efforts to realize the dynamic engagement of all citizens, and is a priority issue for the Abe Cabinet. We are thus pursuing policies aimed at achieving a "society where women shine." This is a society where women can turn their hopes and dreams into reality at their homes, in their communities, and in their workplaces.

This year, Japan hosted the Ise-Shima summit and strongly promoted its women-related agenda. The G7 leaders endorsed the G7 Guiding Principles for Building the Capacity of Women and Girls and the Women's Initiative in Developing STEM Career (WINDS) based on an understanding of the importance of capacity building for women and promoting engagement of women in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) as the basis for the empowerment of women. Taking this opportunity, Prime Minister Abe also presented Japan's plan to offer technical training for about 5,000 women and assist with education for approximately 50,000 female students over the three years of 2016-18.

In April, a new law called the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace fully entered into force. This law imposes an obligation on large companies and public entities to create their own action plans with numerical targets and to disclose relevant information. As such, it drives positive actions of an unprecedented scale, and marks the entry of a new stage of employment in Japan.

In May, we formulated the "Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment." This strategy was developed as one of thematic policies under the Development Cooperation Charter. Its priority initiatives

include promotion of gender responsive infrastructure, girl's education (including in the field of STEM) and women's leadership especially in the field of disaster risk reduction. Japan will strengthen its contributions toward gender equality and women's empowerment in accordance with this policy.

Furthermore, Japan hosted the World Assembly for Women (WAW!) both in 2014 and 2015. This year, WAW! 2016 will be held on December 13th and 14th in Tokyo. We are expecting many leaders around the world to join WAW! and fully utilize this opportunity for sharing and exchanging best practices and knowledge to improve gender equality and women's empowerment in the world.