

Research Report on International Economy and  
Foreign Affairs

(Excerpt)

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Research Committee on International Economy and Foreign Affairs  
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## **Foreword**

Since the end of the East-West Cold War, the international community has made progress in spreading democracy and the market economy under cooperative political relations. The international economy has been globalized, and relations between national economies have been enhanced. Driven by growth in emerging countries and other factors, the international economy has overcome some economic crises including the Asian currency crisis and the collapse of Lehman Brothers and achieved general development. At present, however, various issues threatening such development have emerged.

Problems that have accompanied the economic growth of large-population countries have led us to doubt the sustainability of the modern development model based on mass production and consumption. They include resources and energy, food and climate change issues. Economic growth deceleration and growing debt levels in developed countries have driven down interest rates to unprecedented and abnormally low levels, while financial innovation and financial market globalization have increased fund flows that are difficult to predict. The very low interest rates and increasing unpredictable fund flows have destabilized the international economy as a whole. Thus, the modern development model faces serious challenges, the international community is required to make effective responses.

As international issues have grown more complicated, sovereign states, main components of the international community, that play key roles have been relatively losing the ability to address these issues. We must recognize the fact that states' monopoly on power has collapsed as various non-state actors such as international organizations, business corporations and civil societies have expanded their roles in line with the development and globalization of democracy and the market economy. These non-state actors and sovereign states should build complementary, cooperative relations, instead of confronting each other, as a condition of making the modern development model sustainable.

Over recent years, the international community has seen some countries that have enhanced their influence in line with remarkable economic growth and have apparently tried to change the status quo by force. There are growing concerns that they will threaten international peace and security. The threat of international terrorist organizations as non-state parties has become serious. Sovereign states and their federations, including the United Nations and other international organizations, are required to address these challenges. What can the international community, including Japan, do to realize human security as the ultimate goal?

Against such background, this Research Committee has conducted research on the theme of “Japanese Diplomacy’s Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy.” We prepared this report as the achievement of our research in a bid to contribute to resolving various challenges facing the international community and Japan through recommendations based on the results of our research.

## **I. Research Process**

The House of Councillors establishes Research Committees to conduct long-term and comprehensive research relating to fundamental matters of government. On January 26, 2015, during the 189th session of the National Diet, the Research Committee on International Economy and Foreign Affairs was established for the purpose of conducting long-term and comprehensive research on the international economy and foreign affairs.

At a Board of Directors meeting on March 4, 2015, the Committee decided on “Japanese Diplomacy’s Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy” as the main theme for this term’s research. The Committee also adopted six subsidiary research themes: “Present Situation of the International Economy and Initiatives to Resolve Challenges,” “Present Situation and Challenges of Japan’s Economic Partnership Initiatives,” “Present Situation and Challenges of Problems Regarding Resources and Energy Supporting Sustainable Prosperity,” “Challenges toward Realizing International Peace Including International Terrorism and Desirable Japanese Initiatives,” “Nuclear Disarmament, the United Nations and Other Challenges for Japan’s Multilateral Diplomacy and Initiatives to Enhance Diplomatic Ability,” and “Responses to Climate Change, Infectious Diseases and Other Global Issues and Japan’s Relevant Roles.”

Of the six subsidiary themes, the Committee listened to explanations by government testifiers and asked them questions concerning the “Present Situation of the International Economy and Initiatives to Resolve Challenges” during the 189th Diet session in order to review all themes before proceeding with the wide-ranging research on the international economy and diplomacy (March 4, 2015). Following this, the Committee heard opinions from voluntary testifiers and asked them questions on “Resources and Energy Problems” and “Population and Food Problems” regarding the “Present Situation and Challenges of Problems Regarding Resources and Energy Supporting Sustainable Prosperity” to address problems to realize a sustainable international economy (April 15

and 22). Given Chinese and Russian moves taken as seeking to change the status quo by force and the killing of Japanese citizens by the ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) international terrorist group, the Committee heard opinions from voluntary testifiers and asked them questions concerning “Challenges toward Realizing International Peace Including International Terrorism and Desirable Japanese Initiatives” (May 13). As negotiations reached the final stage on the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) agreement that is expected to exert great influence on the international economy and Japan’s economy and society, the Committee listened to explanations from government testifiers and heard opinions from voluntary testifiers and asked them questions in two meetings on the “Present Situation and Challenges of Japan’s Economic Partnership Initiatives” in order to look into the influences and challenges in the negotiations (May 27, June 10).

During the 190th Diet session, the Committee listened to explanations from government testifiers and asked them questions on the “Present Situation and Challenges of Japan’s Economic Partnership Initiatives” to look into the outline and impacts of a broad TPP agreement and relevant measures in response to the broad agreement reached in TPP negotiations (February 10, 2016). In order to consider how to enhance Japan’s diplomatic ability to resolve various problems, the Committee heard opinions from voluntary testifiers and asked them questions on “Nuclear Disarmament, the United Nations and Other Challenges for Japan’s Multilateral Diplomacy and Initiatives to Enhance Diplomatic Ability” (February 17). In a bid to look for desirable responses to the climate change issues that grows more serious in accordance with the development of the international economy, the Committee heard opinions from voluntary testifiers and asked them questions concerning “Responses to Climate Change, Infectious Diseases and Other Global Issues and Japan’s Relevant Roles” (February 24). Finally, the Committee members exchanged opinions on “Japanese Diplomacy’s Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy” (May 11).

## **II. Recommendations**

Based on the results of the nine research meetings, the Committee presents the following recommendations on the research theme of “Japanese Diplomacy’s Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy.”

### **1. Basic Concept Japan Should Adopt**

#### **(1) Basic Diplomatic Attitude and Proactive Diplomatic Operations**

Japan has persistently remained on the path of a peaceful country since after World War II and now enjoys prosperity as a state respecting the values of freedom and democracy, the rule of law and basic human rights. Japan has so far contributed to realizing peace, stability and prosperity by attempting international cooperation as a member of the international community without depending on military power. As a quarter century has passed since the end of the Cold War, changes have emerged due to the fast progress in globalization in the international community through the development of information and communications technology and means of transportation. Under the situation, factors threatening peace, stability and prosperity are increasing not only in East Asia but also in the entire international community, destabilizing and clouding the international environment surrounding Japan.

For Japan, a country that bases its peace and stability on a stable environment for the international community and good relations with other countries, it is a very important challenge to strive to realize international peace and a sustainable international economy. One of the most important means in this respect is diplomacy.

To secure not only Japan’s national interests but also peace and prosperity in the entire international community, the government should strive more proactively to resolve challenges through diplomacy while paying attention to the interconnectedness of various challenges.

As various global issues have emerged over recent years, multilateral diplomacy as well as bilateral diplomacy have grown more important for Japan. The government

should effectively combine multilateral diplomacy with bilateral diplomacy to contribute to resolving various challenges in the international community and hence sufficiently increase Japan's presence and influence. To this end, the government should proactively take advantage of both the Group of Seven framework that is still influential in setting the agenda for the international community and the Ise-Shima G7 summit that Japan will host. At the same time, the government should explore and nurture human resources who can undertake such diplomacy.

## **(2) Diplomatic Efforts to Improve Relations with Neighboring Countries**

East Asia where Japan is located has achieved remarkable development, enjoying prosperity as a whole. Meanwhile, this region's security environment is still uncertain and unstable. To secure Japan's peace and prosperity, it is important to build good, stable relations with the United States and stable relations with China and South Korea as neighbors. However, various diplomatic challenges originating from Japan's historical relations with China and South Korea are impeding the development of Japan's relations with these countries in some cases. To make progress in resolving the difficult challenges, Japan must develop top-level confidential relations, in addition to mutual understanding at the grassroots level, in order to proceed with talks and cooperation to address common challenges. In this respect, Japan, China and South Korea have already established the trilateral framework for leaders' and foreign ministers' meetings. Although leaders' meetings have been affected by contemporary political situations, the Japan-China-South Korea summit in 2015 completely revived the framework of Japan-China-South Korea cooperation and achieved an agreement to hold the trilateral summit regularly and open the next summit in Japan in 2016. This was a great achievement.

The government should make diplomatic efforts to allow the Japan-China-South Korea summit to be held annually for frank discussions on how to resolve various East Asian problems that the three countries share and for proactive initiatives to promote trilateral cooperation. Such efforts are very important for strictly dealing with North



Korea, a country that has destabilized the East Asian security environment by developing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles. From such viewpoint, the government should try to build multi-layered confidential trilateral relations through talks, exchanges and cooperation in both the public and private sectors to back up the Japan-China-South Korea summit.

### **(3) Desirable State of the United Nations Today and Japan's Response**

The United Nations established in 1945 is an international organization that plays key roles in maintaining peace and stability in the world under the U.N. Charter, covering 193 countries or almost all countries in the world. The United Nations conducted various operations and made achievements in various regions in the world to maintain international peace, promote friendly international relations and realize international cooperation. Particularly in the Cold War age, however, the U.N. Security Council that has main responsibility for international peace and security had become dysfunctional due to frequent vetoes, failing to play its proper roles in some cases. While growing expectations are placed on the United Nations to address various global issues such as international terrorism, climate change and infectious diseases, the organization has failed to fully meet the expectations due to resources constraints. As there are such structural problems, the state of the United Nations is called into question.

The year 2016 marks the 60th anniversary of Japan's accession to the United Nations. Japan has undertaken great roles for the United Nations, maintaining the second largest level of contribution in the world to the U.N. ordinary budget over a long term and serving as a nonpermanent member of the U.N. Security Council 11 times including the current term, which is the highest frequency among U.N. members. Japan's cooperation with and utilization of the United Nations which possesses strengths in universality, expertness and legitimacy will contribute to enhancing Japan's diplomatic ability. The engagement in the United Nations by Japan that proactively contributes to promoting human security in refugee issues, health and hygiene, education and other areas as a

peaceful country is expected to further enhance the legitimacy of the U.N. To this end, Japan should make greater contributions to reforming the U.N. Security Council and become its permanent member.

The government should make proactive efforts for a U.N. Security Council reform including Japan's winning of a permanent seat in the council. To this end, Japan, as a country trusted by other countries in the world and Asia, should make sufficient contributions to various U.N. operations consistent with the present Constitution while paying due heed to its accountability for explaining these contributions' consistency with Japan's diplomatic objectives and their transparency and effects. The government should also enhance initiatives to explore and nurture human resources to further increase the number of Japanese staff who work for U.N. agencies, especially regarding those in executive posts.

#### **(4) Importance of Economic Diplomacy to Secure Japan's Prosperity**

While the integration of the world economy and the growing influence of emerging economies are seen in the background of sharp progress in globalization, the environment surrounding Japan has been changing greatly as indicated by unstable resources and energy situations, food supply and demand trends, intensifying competition in international markets, the creation of bilateral and multilateral free trade and economic partnership agreements and economic growth deceleration in some emerging countries. In response to such international economic conditions, national governments in the world are enhancing their engagement with or support for economic activities. The free movement of speculative money has brought about commodity price spikes, prompting some people to point out the adverse effects of market economy growth. Appropriate regulations are required when business operations of private corporations are promoted.

For Japan to secure sustainable prosperity through trade and investment while meeting such requirements, rules are required for economic activities in Japan and other countries to be conducted fairly and appropriately. Recognizing this point, the government

must be united to proactively promote economic diplomacy contributing to the inclusive prosperity of the international community and the promotion of Japan's national interests while enhancing cooperation among relevant government ministries and agencies.

#### **(5) Further Promotion of Development Cooperation**

Today, threats to peace in the international community are growing, including an increase in vulnerable countries and frequent terrorist attacks. Reportedly, lying behind those threats is social destabilization caused by poverty and inequality. Realizing a peaceful, stable international community is an important challenge for securing Japan's prosperity. Development cooperation centering on official development assistance (ODA) is one of the means for Japan as a peaceful country to tackle this challenge.

In February 2015, revising the ODA Charter, the government adopted the new Development Cooperation Charter at a Cabinet meeting. In order to realize a peaceful, stable international community, the government should more proactively and strategically exploit ODA to promote inclusive development cooperation. In view of "human security" as the guiding philosophy for Japan's ODA, the government should further strive to provide fine-tuned grass-roots assistance to allow people put in vulnerable positions in developing countries in particular to demonstrate their potential.

In September 2015, the United Nations Summit adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the international community, including developed countries, should accomplish by 2030. The SDGs replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Japan should consider and draft arrangements and plans for domestic measures required to accomplish the SDGs and should disseminate these arrangements and plans to the rest of the world. Japan should also take advantage of knowledge and experiences accumulated through various domestic initiatives to proactively provide support through ODA and other means for other countries to plan and implement policies required to accomplish the SDGs.

While not only governments but also international organizations, local

governments, non-government organizations, business corporations and other parties provide cooperation and assistance for developing countries, these non-government parties' roles have increased in recent years. Given this fact, the government should proactively cooperate and collaborate with other governments and non-government parties in implementing ODA after considering how to share roles efficiently and effectively, while taking note of the importance of visible representation of Japanese ODA.

Given that conflicts and terrorism have generated many displaced persons and refugees in the world, Japan should proactively tackle humanitarian assistance for their relief through cooperation with relevant countries and international organizations in coordination with the international community and should redouble diplomatic efforts to build peace for paving the way for refugees to return home.

#### **(6) Promotion of Initiatives to Resolve Global Issues**

Many countries face problems of varying degrees of severity such as population growth, food shortages, climate change and other global environmental issues, infectious disease epidemics, natural disasters and other challenges. As the international community becomes more borderless, an event in a country frequently spreads to other countries beyond national borders and causes serious conditions in many regions of the world. As international cooperation and special knowledge are indispensable for resolving these challenges, universities and other research institutes, relevant international organizations and international non-government organizations play great roles. The government is required to effectively cooperate with these organizations. Japan, known for its successful resolution of various challenges, has knowledge, skills and experiences regarding various global issues and their resolution. The government should proactively take advantage of, systematize and communicate its capabilities to resolve global issues.

## **2. Policies Japan Should Adopt**

### **(1) Japan's Response to the International Terrorism Issues**

Against the background of the fight against terrorism being conducted mainly through a series of military responses, the international terrorism situation has greatly changed with Al Qaeda's adoption of a 'franchise' model, the rise of the ISIL, an increase in lone wolf terrorist attacks and other developments. International terrorism has spread throughout the world, posing a great threat to the international community. The overthrow of existing governments through military responses has caused power vacuums and confusion accompanied by refugee problems and exacerbated the contradictions faced by societies with immigrant communities. These are all factors which produce international terrorism. Given this, the limits of military initiatives has been recognized with the growing appreciation of the importance of the rebuilding of order after such overthrows and adopting refugee measures and low-profile initiatives to address various terrorism-causing factors such as poverty and inequality. In this respect, Japan's roles in non-military areas are important.

Japan is required to recognize international terrorism as a challenge to the common values of human beings and a threat to the whole of the world, develop arrangements for enhancing anti-terrorism measures in view of the Group of Seven Ise-Shima Summit this year and the 2020 Tokyo Olympics/Paralympics and contribute to international responses to terrorism and underlying violent radicalism.

The government should encourage the relevant countries to rebuild the current anti-terrorism framework represented by the fight against terrorism into an extensive, comprehensive one that is based on judicial and law enforcement measures and covers intelligence operations, diplomacy, financial regulations and development cooperation. It should also lead specific initiatives while exploiting support for improving capacity and developing legal systems to address and investigate terrorism including cyberterrorism. In order to forestall and address terrorism in Japan and improve the effectiveness of anti-terrorism measures, the government should be united with the private sector to consider

measures for promoting relevant parties' sharing of knowledge and consciousness indispensable for understanding information on terrorism and supporting the development of human resources with expertise on anti-terrorism measures.

## **(2) Japan's Response to Nuclear Disarmament**

Although the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty was extended indefinitely in 1995, non-nuclear weapon countries have grown frustrated with the minimal progress in nuclear disarmament among nuclear weapon countries and accelerated their demands for new legal frameworks, including a ban treaty on nuclear weapons. Furthermore, tensions on the Korean Peninsula and other factors have made it difficult to proceed with nuclear disarmament. As the only country subjected to atomic bombardment, Japan is expected to actively promote an effective approach for making real progress in nuclear disarmament under the international community's shared recognition of the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and serve as a bridge between nuclear weapon and other countries. To this end, Japan is required to maintain the consistency between its own national security policy and its nuclear disarmament diplomacy.

To realize "the world without nuclear weapons," the government should play a leading role in proposing a flexible, realizable approach, including legal and practical measures, at the Open-Ended Working Group taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations (OEWG) in the United Nations, while taking note of impacts on regional security and nuclear weapon countries' possible cooperation. It should also take advantage of the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) and other initiatives to make realistic, persuasive nuclear disarmament proposals. At the same time, the government should work on relevant countries to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and launch negotiations on the proposed Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT).

Japan should also try to make its nuclear disarmament diplomacy persuasive by using facts to rebut concerns about its possession of plutonium for the nuclear fuel cycle.

### **(3) Desirable Economic Partnerships and TPP, and Japan's Response**

After World War II, Japan has recovered from the unprecedented horrors of the war and built prosperity. It is pointed out that the multilateral trading system in the international community has greatly contributed to expanding Japan's trade as the background behind its prosperity. The World Trade Organization has continued trade liberalization negotiations over a long time to develop the multilateral trading system. As the negotiations involve the complicated interaction of the national interests of countries, no breakthrough is expected in the negotiations. Responding to the absence of progress in the WTO round negotiations, Japan and other countries have promoted economic partnerships by concluding free trade agreements (FTAs) or economic partnership agreements (EPAs). Over recent years, countries have negotiated multilateral mega-FTAs integrating those agreements mainly in the three economic growth poles of Europe, the Americas and Asia to pursue economic rationality based on further progress in economic globalization including the expansion of supply chains.

In promoting economic partnerships, the government should fully take note of concerns that economic partnerships benefit only some giant global companies, affect national traditions and cultures, impair national sovereignty, human rights, food security, the environment and other important factors for human lives and have universality problems. The government should also confirm that Japan's ultimate goals are the establishment of a fair global multilateral trading system and the entire world's inclusive prosperity and should keep on contributing to maintaining and enhancing the WTO system.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement in which 12 Asia Pacific countries including Japan and the United States participate seeks to liberalize trade and investment at a higher level than other FTAs or EPAs. Given that the process and details of TPP negotiations are kept secret under confidentiality obligation, however, there is a view that information required for various decisions has remained unavailable. Another view is that there are constraints on the revelation of such details from the viewpoint of

confidential relations with negotiating partners in diplomatic negotiations. In Japan, some people view the TPP as contributing to promoting Japan's economic growth to some extent, while others express concern that the TPP would have limited economic growth promoting effects, would affect agricultural, forestry and fishery products, including the five sensitive products such as rice, as well as a wide range of other areas such as sustainable production, healthcare and insurance systems, and environmental and food safety and would trigger the expansion of inequality and the deterioration of rural areas. Thus, there are various views and assessments concerning the TPP. Therefore, the government should disclose information and provide careful explanations as much as possible and fulfill its accountability for explanations to the public through Diet deliberations. In addition, the government should proactively implement measures required to eliminate citizens' concern.

#### **(4) Japan's Response to Resolve World Energy Problems**

As global structural changes have occurred regarding fossil fuels and other energy supply and demand due to the increasing weight of populous emerging economies posting remarkable economic growth and U.S. energy production expansion caused by the shale revolution and other factors over recent years, speculative money flows have been coupled with these changes to cause wild fluctuations in fossil fuel prices that make long-term economic management difficult for both fossil fuel producing and consuming countries. This has triggered grave concerns for the world economy. For Japan, a country with little fossil fuel resources, securing a stable energy supply has been an important challenge. Particularly, confidence in the safety of nuclear energy has been lost due to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station accident, making the challenge even more important. As Japan is required to address the climate change issues, it is called on to secure stable energy harmonized with greenhouse gas emission cuts.

The government should raise issues and lead discussions through various diplomatic opportunities including the Group of Seven and Group of 20 meetings to



secure the stability of energy prices in the international market. It should also take advantage of EPAs and development cooperation to build good bilateral relations with resources producing countries. To build a resilient energy supply structure consistent with the international community's medium to long-term initiatives such as the SDGs established in September 2015 and the December 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change measures, the government should consider a desirable energy system, plan institutions for realizing the system and promote continuous technological innovation regarding renewable energy and energy conservation, while taking note of the lessons from the Fukushima nuclear accident.

#### **(5) Japan's Response to Resolve World Resources Problems**

Structural supply and demand changes accompanying the development of emerging economies have emerged not only for energy resources but also for various other resources. As dynamics between resources producing and consuming countries have dramatically change against the backdrop of a resources demand increase in China and other emerging countries, obtaining rights to resources has become more important for securing cheap resources stably.

While mineral resources are varied with their distribution being remarkably uneven, in particular securing a stable supply of rare metals and rare earth elements indispensable for manufacturing various industrial materials has become a key challenge over recent years. Attracting attention in this respect are used products called "urban mines." In this respect, the implementation of the Act on Promotion of Recycling of Small Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment alone is insufficient.

To secure resources stably, the government should contribute to technological improvement and human resources development in resource-rich countries by providing them with satellite-using resources exploration technology, mine pollution-solving know-how and other advanced Japanese technologies and experience through cooperation development to promote development of those countries and raise international resources

supply capacity. To support Japanese companies' acquisition of ownership rights in resources, the government should deepen discussions concerning risk money supply using public funds, while taking note of accountability to the public and procedural transparency. The government should also try to foster relevant experts through industry-government-academy cooperation for Japan to win the race to obtain natural resources in the international market.

In addition to obtaining resources, Japan is required to advance recycling from the viewpoint of stable rare metal and rare earth elements supply. To recover and use "urban mines" including used electrical home appliances that have massively flowed out of Japan, the government should cooperate with industry in building global recycling networks mainly in Asia on a commercial basis to develop win-win relations with other countries.

#### **(6) Japan's Response to Resolve World Population Problems**

World population growth centers on developing countries and regions, which face many problems including those involving environmental pollution, slumification, education, health and employment, brought about by population concentration in urban regions. The government should take advantage of its knowledge and experience to support livelihood infrastructure development meeting population growth in developing countries and regions in cooperation with the international community. The government should also promote cooperation to upgrade reproductive health, healthcare levels and women's positions to prevent unwanted pregnancy and improve the environment in developing countries and regions. To prevent population growth from causing social destabilization, particularly, the government should proceed with initiatives to create jobs.

Japan now faces a population decline due to the rapidly declining birthrate and aging population unprecedented in the international community. It is necessary to implement measures to address challenges accompanying the declining birthrate and aging population in line with the actual demographic structure. As similar problems are expected

to arise in various areas in the world in the future, the government should take the initiative in building new social models and sharing its experiences with other countries to contribute to the resolution of global issues.

#### **(7) Japan's Response to Resolve World Food Problems**

As world food demand is expanding in accordance with population growth, the food supply-demand balance is expected to tighten over a long term. Particularly, demand in China with growth seen in food demand including feed grains and in the Middle East and North Africa with growing populations, where water resources constraints on food production expansion, is greatly influencing food prices. Food price hikes accompanying demand growth have brought about a spreading agricultural development boom and speculative money's inflow into commodities markets, which have destabilized food prices. In Japan, production has slipped below demand for many grains, excluding rice which is in oversupply, and the food self-sufficiency rate is declining. While food imports have been taken as natural in Japan, people are expected to grow conscious of a food shortage problem in line with world food situation changes.

The government should further support overseas food production capacity to improve food situations in the world. In the Middle East and North Africa, particularly, the government is required to consider how best to use water resources and take effective initiatives. Regarding domestic food problems, the government should tackle measures to improve the food self-sufficiency rate while taking into account the characteristics of farmlands in flatlands and hilly and mountainous areas. In hilly and mountainous areas, particularly, farmlands, water, humans and watershed protection forests are united elements that support local communities. A loss of even one function could exert adverse effects on local communities as a whole and downstream flatland areas. Therefore, the government should further promote comprehensive initiatives to maintain the farm management environment including local subsistence farming. Furthermore, the government should take full note of the present situation in which a food loss problem has

emerged despite food imports. The government should also consider the succession of Japanese dietary cultures in view of the fact that food plays various roles including not only energy and nutrient supply but also cultural succession.

#### **(8) Japan's Response to Resolve the Climate Change Issues**

The Fifth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) points out that the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, one of the greenhouse gases, has increased by 40% since before the industrial revolution, that the global average temperature covering land and sea areas rose by 0.85°C over the period 1880 to 2012 and that there is a high possibility that human activities have caused global warming. At the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21), in December 2015 the Paris Agreement was adopted as the first international framework on climate change measures in which all countries participate. The agreement calls for holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C, and more. This represents the international community's serious determination to reduce carbon emissions in the face of the difficult problem of global warming that is expected to bring about irreversible effects. Japan is required to tackle systematic greenhouse gas emission cuts to achieve the target of cutting emissions by 26% from FY2013 by FY2030. Against the backdrop of the improved economic rationality of carbon-reducing and renewable energy businesses, Japan is expected to make contributions to the emission reduction with advanced technologies and accumulated experience to harmonize sustainable economic growth with climate change initiatives.

The government, as a responsible member of the international community, should take measures required to reduce emissions such as more efficient heat utilization and in other areas where progress can be expected in emission cuts, while promoting discussions on a desirable electricity mix. It should also promote assistance to developing countries through public-private cooperation in a manner consistent with the Paris

Agreement. The government should take leadership at the Group of Seven and other meetings to promote emission reduction initiatives.

### **(9) Japan's Response to Resolve Global Infectious Disease Problems**

From the viewpoint of realizing human security, Japan has given priority to assistance for the health area including the promotion of infectious disease measures and universal health coverage (UHC) in the international community, proceeded with initiatives to build resilient health systems in cooperation with the international community and international organizations and promote the enhanced enforcement of the international health regulations of the World Health Organization (WHO), and made great contributions to overcoming health challenges including infectious diseases, mothers' and children's health and nutrition improvement in developing countries.

As movements of people have increased on a global scale, the threat of infectious diseases has expanded, dealing a serious blow to economic and social development in developing countries. Even in developed countries, multidrug-resistant tuberculosis that resists traditional anti-tuberculosis drugs has emerged, with Ebola hemorrhage fever, Zika virus infection and other emerging or reemerging infectious diseases spreading beyond national boundaries, thus making it urgently necessary to enhance relevant domestic and external initiatives.

To prevent infectious diseases spreading beyond national boundaries from affecting stability and development in any country, the government should cooperate with the WHO and other international organizations and other countries in continuing to enhance information sharing and conveyance arrangements and to support neglected tropical disease measures and the diffusion of good practices of the international community including Japan, in order to contribute to realizing universal health coverage. Given that domestic infectious disease measures can also counter infectious diseases posing threats internationally, the government should pave the way for Japanese companies to demonstrate their capabilities for developing new drugs, promote

cooperation and information exchanges between local governments, expand clinical test and research arrangements and further enhance initiatives to develop human resources while going so far as to take risk communication capabilities into account.

### **III. Research Outline**

(Omitted)

#### **Afterword**

The Research Committee adopted “Japanese Diplomacy’s Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy” as the research theme for this term. This is because we thought that the existing system, which has served as the base for Japan’s postwar prosperity and supported the international peace and economy, faces various challenges with its sustainability questioned due to the international community’s structural transformations including international power balance changes caused by globalization and other factors.

After the Research Committee looked into how the international community and Japan should respond to these changes under the six subsidiary themes, we found that comprehensive initiatives based on wide perspectives are required to resolve challenges as various issues interact with each other.

For example, various countries and regions have concluded or negotiated regional economic partnership agreements to promote multilateral trade as no breakthrough has been expected in the WTO Doha round of trade liberalization talks. Depending on how such regional economic partnership agreements are operated, however, the international economy could be divided. Reflecting on the prewar block economies, the world should avoid such division. The TPP is viewed by some people as representing the power struggle between the United States and China to expand control regarding security as well as trade in the Asia Pacific region. It is also pointed out that excessively free trade could seriously affect the survival of people on an individual basis: particularly those put in vulnerable positions. The TPP is thus required to be considered from not only the economic viewpoint but also from human rights and human security viewpoints.

In addition to North Korea’s nuclear and missile development, China’s aggressive maritime expansion and other traditional security problems focusing on states,

activities of international terrorist groups, which have attracted attention since the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States and recently include the ISIL, have become serious threats to peace in the international community. It has become more important to respond to international terrorism. At the Research Committee, limits on military responses to international terrorism were pointed out. Japan should carry out diplomacy to take leadership in planning comprehensive countermeasures including development cooperation such as strengthening governance and responses to unemployment and implement the package in the international community.

Given the abovementioned concept, the Research Committee in this report clarified issues in making international peace and the international economy sustainable by combining the six subsidiary themes and compiled its views as recommendations regarding effective measures to overcome the challenges. We sincerely hope that relevant people will fully understand the objectives and details of these recommendations and reflect them in various policy measures in the future.



## Reference 1 Timeline of Deliberations

Diet session and date	Outline
189th January 26, 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establishment of the Research Committee on International Economy and Foreign Affairs</li><li>• Election of the committee chairperson (Minoru Yanagida (DPJ))</li><li>• Election of directors</li></ul>
March 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decision on the research theme (Japanese Diplomacy's Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy)</li><li>• Hearing government explanations and conducting a question and answer session (Present Situation of the International Economy and Initiatives to Resolve Challenges)</li></ul>
April 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hearing opinions from voluntary testifiers and conducting a question and answer session (Present Situation and Challenges of Problems Regarding Resources and Energy Supporting Sustainable Prosperity (Resources and Energy Problems))</li></ul> <p>(Voluntary testifiers)</p> <p>Kazuo ISHIKAWA President, Institute for Industrial Growth and Social Security Policy</p> <p>Hirobumi KAWANO President, Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation</p> <p>Kohmei HALADA Senior Special Missions Scientist, National Institute for Materials</p>

	<p>Science</p> <p>April 22 • Hearing opinions from voluntary testifiers and conducting a question and answer session (Present Situation and Challenges of Problems Regarding Resources and Energy Supporting Sustainable Prosperity (Population and Food Problems))</p> <p>(Voluntary testifiers)</p> <p>Hisakazu KATO</p> <p>Professor, School of Political Science and Economics, Meiji University</p> <p>Ryuzaburo SATO</p> <p>Visiting Researcher, Institute of Economic Research, Chuo University</p> <p>Akio SHIBATA</p> <p>President, Natural Resource Research Institute</p>
<p>May 13</p>	<p>• Hearing opinions from voluntary testifiers and conducting a question and answer session (Challenges toward Realizing International Peace Including International Terrorism and Desirable Japanese Initiatives)</p> <p>(Voluntary testifiers)</p> <p>Kiichi FUJIWARA</p> <p>Professor of International Politics, Graduate School of Law and Politics, The University of Tokyo</p> <p>Isao ITABASHI</p> <p>Senior Analyst and Chief of Study Division, Council for Public Policy</p> <p>Kazuo TAKAHASHI</p> <p>Professor, The Open University of Japan (Hoso-Daigaku)</p>

	<p>May 27 • Hearing government explanations and opinions from a voluntary testifier and conducting a question and answer session (Present Situation and Challenges of Japan’s Economic Partnership Initiatives)</p> <p>(Voluntary testifier)</p> <p>Yorizumi WATANABE</p> <p>Professor, Faculty of Policy Management</p> <p>Researcher, Graduate School of Media and Governance</p> <p>Keio University</p> <p>June 10 • Hearing opinions from voluntary testifiers and conducting a question and answer session (Present Situation and Challenges of Japan’s Economic Partnership Initiatives)</p> <p>(Voluntary testifiers)</p> <p>Junichi SUGAWARA</p> <p>Senior Research Officer, Research Department-Public Policy, Mizuho Research Institute Ltd.</p> <p>Shoko UCHIDA</p> <p>Director and Secretary-General, Pacific Asia Resource Center</p> <p>Masaru KANEKO</p> <p>Professor, Faculty of Economics, Keio University</p>
<p>190th</p> <p>February 10, 2016</p>	<p>• Resignation and election of directors</p> <p>• Hearing government explanations and conducting a question and answer session (Present Situation and Challenges of Japan’s Economic Partnership Initiatives)</p>

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| February 17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing opinions from voluntary testifiers (Nuclear Disarmament, the United Nations and Other Challenges for Japan’s Multilateral Diplomacy and Initiatives to Enhance Diplomatic Ability)</li> </ul> <p>(Voluntary testifiers)</p> <p><b>Nobuyasu ABE</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs</p> <p><b>Masahiko ASADA</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Professor, Kyoto University School of Government</p> <p><b>Hiromichi UMEBAYASHI</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Special Adviser, Peace Depot, Inc.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Former Director, Nagasaki University Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition</p> <p><b>Toshiya HOSHINO</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Executive Vice President, Osaka University</p> |
| February 24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing opinions from voluntary testifiers and conducting a question and answer session (Responses to Climate Change, Infectious Diseases and Other Global Issues and Japan’s Relevant Roles)</li> </ul> <p>(Voluntary testifiers)</p> <p><b>Kimiko HIRATA</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Director, Kiko Network</p> <p><b>Nobuhiko OKABE</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Director General, Kawasaki City Institute for Public Health</p> <p><b>Yasushi KATSUMA</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Vice Dean and Professor, Faculty of International Research and</p>  |

	<p>Education</p> <p>Dean, Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies</p> <p>Waseda University</p>
May 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of director</li> <li>• Exchange of views between committee members (Japanese Diplomacy's Roles in Realizing International Peace and a Sustainable International Economy)</li> <li>• Decision on the research report and its submission to the President of the House of Councillors</li> <li>• Decision to offer the report at a plenary meeting</li> </ul>

## Reference 2 List of Committee Members

(as of May 11, 2016)

Chairman	Minoru YANAGIDA (DP-SR)
Director	Michiko UENO (LDP)
Director	Motome TAKISAWA (LDP)
Director	Matsuji NAKAIZUMI (LDP)
Director	Kumiko AIHARA (DP-SR)
Director	Tsutomu OKUBO (DP-SR)
Director	Yoshihiro KAWANO (KP)
Director	Tomoko KAMI (JCP)
	Kiyomi AKAISHI (LDP)
	Hiroo ISHII (LDP)
	Midori ISHII (LDP)
	Nobuaki SATO (LDP)
	Makoto NAGAMINE (LDP)
	Takeshi NINOYU (LDP)
	Takashi HANYUDA (LDP)
	Toshiharu FURUKAWA (LDP)
	Shingo MIYAKE (LDP)
	Shuji YAMADA (LDP)
	Toshiyuki KATO (DP-SR)
	Masao KOBAYASHI (DP-SR)
	Hiroyuki NAGAHAMA (DP-SR)
	Mitsuyoshi YANAGISAWA (DP-SR)
	Hiroshi YAMAMOTO (KP)
	Antonio INOKI (AEJ-GI)
	Masamune WADA (PJK)

Note: LDP: Liberal Democratic Party  
DP-SR: The Democratic Party and Shin-Ryokufukai  
KP: Komeito  
JCP: Japanese Communist Party  
AEJ: The Assembly to Energize Japan and The Independents  
PJK: The Party for Japanese Kokoro

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