

Closing Remarks by  
KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN  
at the Wrap-Up Symposium for the 50th Year of  
ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation  
Jakarta, Indonesia, 21 February 2024

Excellencies, Ambassadors, Distinguish Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first express my sincere appreciation to all of you for kindly sparing your precious time to take part in today's event to wrap-up the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation. I am greatly encouraged by a big turnout and extremely grateful for your warm support.

In particular, the speakers and moderators made their valuable contributions to make the most of this occasion to further deepen ASEAN-Japan cooperation across the fields.

I would also like to express my special thanks to the team of the Permanent Mission of Thailand to ASEAN and Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI) for co-organising this event and making it most successful. Great thanks to ERIA for providing this venue and extending various support to this symposium.

Today's symposium is the very first big event in the next 50 years of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation. I am pleased to listen to great discussions for concrete steps to take ASEAN-Japan cooperation to the next stage.

The history of heart-to-heart relations with "trust" is the foundation of our partnership, and our way forward is to "co-create" solutions to address social and global challenges, such as energy transition, climate change, environmental issues, digitalisation, health, and disaster management, making full use of Japan's technology and experience.

And the outcomes of such cooperation have an immense potential for scaling up from the Indo-Pacific to the world. They promote not only solutions but also confidence building, which contributes to regional and global peace and prosperity. ASEAN has been discussing AOIP-led Comprehensive Regional Architecture. I look forward to discussing how dialogue partners, including Japan, can contribute to this architecture.

Japan strongly supports Lao PDR chairmanship along with its 9 priorities, under the theme of “Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience,” which are of great importance to address multifaceted issues that we face today. We look forward to working with Lao PDR and other ASEAN Member States to make this year a great success.

I would like to conclude my closing remarks by expressing Japan’s renewed commitment to promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world through “co-creation” with ASEAN based on “trust”. This symposium is a new starting point of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation to this end.

Thank you very much for your attention.

(End)