

December 16, 2019

Statement by Mr. ASO Taro, Minister of Finance, Japan

1. Japan welcomes the conclusion of the 19th replenishment negotiations of the International Development Association (IDA19).
2. Japan highly values that IDA19's priority areas reflect key outcomes of the development agenda under the Japanese presidency of the G20, namely, quality infrastructure investment, global health (Universal Health Coverage financing and pandemics), debt sustainability, and resilience against natural disasters.
3. Japan pledges to contribute an amount of JPY 352.5 billion (around USD 3.2 billion) to IDA19, all in the form of grant, translating into a burden share of 10.0 percent. Considering the loss in value of loan contributions under the prevailing low interest circumstances, and in light of the strong call for scaling up grant contribution, Japan will not be making use of loan contribution for this round of IDA replenishment, departing from its practice at the previous round.
4. Japan is committed to continue actively supporting IDA, a leading development institution that plays a pivotal role in enhancing sustainable poverty reduction in the world's poorest countries.