

July 16, 2021

**Joint Statement:**

**Japan must not be allowed to violate the G7 Leaders' Statement  
- Supporting new Coal Plants in Indonesia and Bangladesh goes against  
the Agreement -**

In response to the G7 Cornwall Summit Leaders' Statement, the Japanese government revised its policy on providing support for overseas coal-fired power projects on June 17, stating to “end new direct international government support for unabated coal-fired power generation by the end of 2021” (\*1). Nevertheless, the Japanese government is determined to exclude from this new policy the new yen loans for the main construction of the Indramayu coal-fired power project (Indonesia) and the Matarbari coal-fired power project Phase 2 (Bangladesh) through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). We, 120 civil society organizations from 25 countries, strongly condemn such determination by the Japanese government.

The fact that the Japanese government is violating the contents of the G7 Leaders' Statement was confirmed when a Japanese civil society organization checked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) whether the policy applies to the aforementioned 2 projects (\*2). According to MoFA's response, the 2 projects are already in the process of being implemented and are not considered as new projects, thus are excluded from the scope of the G7 Leaders' Statement.

However, in some cases in the past, MoFA has interpreted projects that are “in process for implementation” as “new projects” and has decided to stop such new projects. For example, when official development assistance (ODA) for Vietnam and Indonesia were suspended due to corruption issues, the adoption of new projects suspended (\*3). Currently, the Japanese government is continuing to disburse loans for the engineering service in Indramayu and is conducting a preparatory survey for Matarbari 2. It is inconsistent for the Japanese government to exclude these 2 projects from the new policy by stating that they are not “new” because they are “in process for implementation.”

Also, for both projects, the main construction has not started and the loan for construction has not yet been adopted. As such, it is feasible enough to not provide these types of support in the future, in other words, to end direct support for coal-fired power generation

by the end of 2021.

The G7 Leaders' Statement is committed to aligning international public finance with the net-zero by 2050 goal, hence supporting the construction of new coal-fired power plants goes against this agreement. Japan's biased logic described above is unacceptable in the international community. Inevitably, Japan will once again be criticized on the global stage, such as at this year's G20 and COP26, for undermining global decarbonization efforts.

Therefore, the Japanese government should review the interpretation of "new" support in the G7 Leaders' Agreement and state that it will not adopt an ODA loan for the main construction of Indramayu and Matarbari 2 coal-fired power projects.

Footnotes:

\*1: <http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/keikyou/dai51/siryous3.pdf> (in Japanese)

\*2: JACSES contacted MoFA on June 14 and the MoFA responded on June 25.

\*3: MoFA, "Further efforts by both Japan and Vietnam to prevent fraudulent corruption over Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects"

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4\\_001075.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_001075.html)

MoFA, "Efforts of both Japan and Indonesia to prevent fraudulent corruption over official development assistance projects"

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4\\_001695.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_001695.html)

### **LIST OF SIGNATORIES**

This letter is signed by 120 organizations, including those working at international and regional levels plus organizations working nationally in 25 countries.

### **INITIAL SIGNATORIES**

Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES)

Kiko Network

Friends of the Earth Japan

350.org Japan

Mekong Watch

### **BANGLADESH ORGANISATIONS**

350.org Bangladesh  
Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association  
Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (BAPA)  
Bangladesh Working Group on External Debt (BWGED)  
Bindu  
Center for Participatory Research and Development-CPRD  
CLEAN (Coastal Livelihood and Environmental Action Network)  
Greenfield Livelihood and Services (GLS)  
Integrated Social Development Effort(ISDE) Bangladesh  
Lawyers For Energy, Environment & Development(LEED)  
Mongla Nagorik Shamaj  
Paribartan, Rajshahi  
Songshoptaque

### **INDONESIAN ORGANISATIONS**

350.org Indonesia  
AEER (Action for Ecology & People Emancipation)  
Auiriga  
Greenpeace Indonesia  
JATAYU INDRAMAYU  
Kanopi hijau Indonesia  
KARBON (Koalisi Rakyat Bersihkan Cirebon)  
KRuHA - people's coalition for the right to water  
Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Bandung  
Mining Advocacy Network (JATAM) Indonesia  
Paguyuban Bale Rahayat  
REKAPALA  
Swadaya Muda  
Trend Asia  
WALHI - Friends of the Earth Indonesia  
WALHI Jawa Barat (West Java)

### **JAPANESE ORGANISATIONS**

350 New ENeration  
350 Shizuoka Network  
350Japan Chushikoku Network

Advocacy committee, Nagoya NGO Center  
CCLJ  
Citizen's Climate Lobby Japan  
Friday For Future Kyoto  
Fridays For Future Tokyo  
Fridays For Future Niigata  
Fridays For Future Saitama  
Fridays For Future Sapporo  
Fridays For Future Sendai  
Fridays for future yamaguchi  
Fridays For Future Dazaifu  
going my way+  
Greenpeace Japan  
Japan International Volunteer Center  
Japan Tropical Forest Action Network (JATAN)  
Kushiro Citizens' Association Against Coal Fire  
Network for Indonesian Democracy, Japan (NINDJA)  
No Nukes Asia Forum Japan  
ODA Reform Network, Kansai  
Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC)  
Peoples power network  
Save the Earth! Action 97  
Womens Democratic Club

#### **REGIONAL AND/ OR INTERNATIONAL LEVEL ORGANISATIONS**

350.org  
Recourse  
Fair Finance International  
Friends of the Earth International  
Rainforest Action Network  
Rivers without Boundaries  
350Africa.org  
350.org America Latina  
350.org Asia  
350 Pacific  
Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD)

Friends of the Earth Asia Pacific  
Fund Our Future  
NGO Forum on ADB  
OXFAM  
Society for Participatory Education and Development (SPED)  
Spirit in Education Movement (SEM)

### **OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

350 Australia, Australia  
Friends of the Earth Australia, Australia  
Market Forces, Australia  
11.11.11, Belgium  
Friends of the Earth Canada, Canada  
Just Finance/VedvarendeEnergi, Denmark  
NOAH-Friends of the Earth Denmark, Denmark  
CESTA, FoE El Salvador, El Salvador  
Friends of the Earth France / Les Amis de la Terre, France  
The Greens Movement of Georgia/FoE Georgia, Georgia  
urgewald, Germany  
AbibiNsroma Foundation, Ghana  
Sustainable Development Institute (SDI), Liberia  
Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia), Malaysia  
Oyu Tolgoi Watch, Mongolia  
SOBREVIVENCIA, Amigos de la Tierra Paraguay, Paraguay  
350 Pilipinas, Philippines  
Asian Energy Network (AEN), Philippines  
Center for Energy, Ecology and Development, Philippines  
Center for Environmental Concerns - Philippines Inc., Philippines  
Cordillera Peoples Alliance, Philippines  
Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment (Kalikasan PNE), Philippines  
Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center, Philippines  
People of Asia for Climate Solutions, Philippines  
Philippine Movement for Climate Justice, Philippines  
WomanHealth Philippines, Philippines  
Women's Development Center, Inc., Philippines  
Korea Federation for Environmental Movements(KFEM), Republic of Korea

Solutions for Our Climate (SFOC) , Republic of Korea  
Centre for Environmental Justice, Sri Lanka  
Jordens Vanner/ Friends of the Earth Sweden, Sweden  
350 Taiwan, Taiwan  
Climate Watch Thailand, Thailand  
Ecological Alert and Recovery -Thailand (EARTH), Thailand  
Healthy Public Policy Foundation, Thailand  
Both ENDS, The Netherlands  
Christian Aid, UK  
Corner House, UK  
350US, United States  
Friends of the Earth United States, United States  
Mighty Earth, United State  
NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council), United States  
Oil Change International, United States

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