

PRESS RELEASE

Japan's two ministers will take co-chairmanship in the 5th IRENA Assembly

H.E. Yoichi Miyazawa, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and H.E. Yasuhide Nakayama, State Minister for Foreign Affairs will take co-chairmanship in the Fifth Assembly of International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to be held in Abu Dhabi from January 17, 2015 for two days.

In addition to being the second largest contributor to IRENA's core budget, Japan provides voluntary financial contribution for IRENA's core projects such as "REthinking Energy" (IRENA's flagship publication), "REmap 2030" (a plan to double the share of renewable energy in the world's energy mix between 2010 and 2030), and Renewable Readiness Assessment (RRA). Japan also extends intellectual supports to IRENA through dispatching a biomass expert to its Innovation and Technology Center (IITC) and sending experts to geothermal energy workshop organized by IRENA. Japan's contribution to IRENA also extends to the capacity building. It organized courses for trainees from regions including Asia, Africa, and Pacific Island and international seminars in Tokyo and Abu Dhabi in cooperation with IRENA.

Renewable energy plays an important role in addressing the urgent issues the international community is facing today such as enhancement of energy security and combating climate change. This is why Japan has been actively supporting IRENA since its establishment in April 2011. Co-chairmanship of the two ministers at the Fifth IRENA Assembly shows Japan's commitment to further contribute to the works of IRENA and promotion of renewable energy.

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