

**Workshop Address Mr Kentaro Endo**

Ladies and gentleman, distinguished guests, my name is Kentaro Endo, I am the Director of Environmental Affairs at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), in Japan. It is my great pleasure to deliver short remarks at the beginning of the workshop on CCS Confidence building.

First of all, I would to extend my warm welcome to all the participants coming from abroad, who have come all the way to Tokyo to attend this meeting and as we are aware of CCS is now recognised as one of the important mitigating options triggered by the IPCC special report on CCS published in 2005. Active discussions are under way in forums such as the IEA and CSLF. In addition, we can see many concrete projects both at commercial and research levels. This kind of movement is making CCS more realistic mitigating options.

I just would like to touch upon some policy development in Japan. Since the early 1990's METI has been active in technology development through relevant organisations. And more recently, last October METI set up a committee consisting of eleven experts from industry and academia. This committee chaired by Professor Kaya is expected to compile more comprehensive policy recommendations for CCS promotion from a wider viewpoint. These recommendations may include regulatory issues, incentives, confidence building, public acceptance and international co-ordination. In this regard, I have to say that Japanese CCS Policy is now moving from CCS technology policy onto more general CCS promotional policy. This is why this workshop on CCS confidence building is very important. So in this regard METI proposes the development of international cooperation for confidence building in long term CCS at the 30th IEAGHG Executive Committee in September last year. And the 30th IEA GHG Executive Committee had approved the proposal. This workshop is a help as part of the approved proposal for facilitating international efforts in building confidence towards CCS. So I'd like to expect active discussion at this workshop. Thank you very much for you kind attention.

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