

Dear GZERO Summit participant,

The world situation has changed drastically since the last GZERO Summit a year ago. With COVID-19 raging, the world is in the midst of an unprecedented crisis. The pandemic has not only brought about a life-threatening crisis, but also driven the entire world economy into recession, and widened the disparities. In addition, some countries are becoming more inward-looking and the free trade system is being endangered. Furthermore, heavy burden on environment caused by human development is jeopardizing the global sustainability.

In the “GZERO”, or an era without global leaderships, we need to strengthen worldwide cooperation and collaboration. The international community needs to work hand in hand to recover world economy and solve global challenges. In doing so, it is important to pursue sustainable capitalism replacing the traditional shareholder-oriented capitalism. With a view to enhancing this movement, Keidanren has recently published “. The new growth strategy”. In this strategy, we showed our determination to go off the beaten track and to establish the sustainable capitalism, through realizing the “Society 5.0”. We are committed to proactively addressing global issues through inclusion and creation of manifold values sought by diverse entities.

“. The new growth strategy” outlines the actions that should be taken by the business community in order to achieve the future vision that Japan and the world should aim for by 2030. With regard to the international issues addressed in the GZERO Summit, the business community will proactively engage itself in private sector diplomacy to contribute towards maintaining and strengthening the free trade/investment regime through effort such as to promote WTO reform and intensify regional cooperation by enhancing economic partnership agreements in terms of both coverage and quality. We will also achieve sustainable growth on a global scale by tackling exigent problems through international cooperation.

In the environmental field, while utilizing platforms such as Keidanren's "Challenge Zero", the business community supports the dissemination and implementation of net zero emission technologies and transition technologies. Furthermore, through cooperation with various regions, we will develop a wide range of technologies which enables transition to a decarbonized society and thereby contribute to Japan's net carbon neutrality by 2050, as well as to the greening of the world.

What is required in the “GZERO” era is that a variety of stakeholders share the challenges and take swift action. In this regard, the GZERO Summit, in which leaders of government and businesses get together and discuss the world’s most pressing issues, is timely and well-deserved. Although this year’s summit is held online, I sincerely hope that the discussions will help to resolve global issues.

Sincerely yours,



Hiroaki Nakanishi  
Chairman, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)  
Chairman of the Board, Executive Officer, Hitachi, Ltd.