

**Speech by Minister NISHIMURA Yasutoshi**  
**The Third Meeting of the CPTPP Commission**

Her Excellency, Dr. Graciela Márquez, Minister of  
Economy of Mexico,  
Ministers and Senior Officials,

It is my great honor to participate in the Third  
Commission Meeting when Japan serves as Vice-  
Chair.

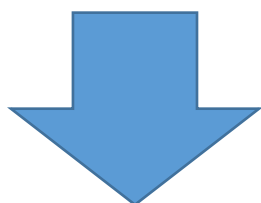
I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Minister  
Márquez for hosting this videoconference at these  
challenging circumstances. I would like to extend my  
condolences and sympathy to all those affected by  
COVID-19.



Coronavirus has had a dramatic impact on the people in the world and the global economy. As a Minister covering Covid-19 response and economic policy as well as the CPTPP, I strongly believe that the post-pandemic global economy must evolve into a new, resilient, sustainable, and inclusive one. With the relevant high-standard and well-balanced rules for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, I believe that the CPTPP will play a crucial role in this regard.

In light of time constraint, I'd like to highlight two important aspects today, namely:

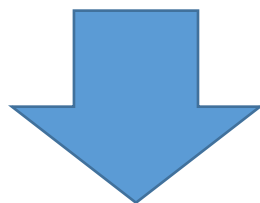
- 1) Building resilient supply chain, and
- 2) Digitalization.



(Building resilient supply chain)

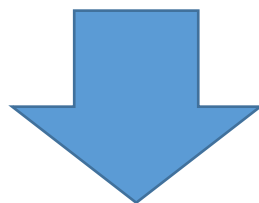
Madame Chair,

Deepening economic integration among CPTPP members has been an important driving force for economic growth. Supply chains encompassing different countries have been playing an important role in our modern manufacturing process. In response to the serious impact by the coronavirus pandemic, how to restore and further enhance resilient supply chains is a key for our future economy. We should work together and set up a platform inviting government officials, industries, and academics from various countries to find a way.



## (Digitalization)

Under the coronavirus pandemic, digital technology has become absolutely crucial to our “new lifestyle”. The Electronic Commerce Chapter of the Agreement contains comprehensive and high-level rules on digitalization. I believe we should do more in using it by setting up a subsidiary body dedicated to digital economy. It will serve as a new platform for encouraging our future cooperation and help us lead international rule-making in digital trade. As an initial concrete step forward, Japan is willing to organize a Webinar on digital economy next year.



(Accession and Ratification)

Madame Chair,

With regard to expansion of the CPTPP, I am happy to hear many voices expressing interest in joining us. As a matter of principle, Japan welcomes those economies who are willing to meet the high standards of the Agreement. I also hope that the Agreement will enter into force for all the 11 Signatories as soon as possible.

Japan would like to continue working closely with all of you to achieve a success in our future endeavor.

Thank you.