

**Joint Statement between Japan and the Republic of Tajikistan
on Further Development of Relations to Co-create Mutually Beneficial Cooperation**

On December 20, 2025, Prime Minister of Japan TAKAICHI Sanae and President of the Republic of Tajikistan Emomali RAHMON held a meeting during the President's official visit to Japan.

The two Leaders shared the recognition of the growing geopolitical importance of the Central Asian region, considering the current extremely difficult geopolitical situation in the world, and stressed the importance of cooperation as partners in maintaining and strengthening the free and open international order based on the rule of law.

The two Leaders affirmed the importance of upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN), including respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, contributing to peace, and protecting and strengthening human dignity.

Based on the cooperation that has been achieved so far, the two Leaders concurred on promoting concrete projects to strengthen the interconnection between Central Asia and the global community with active involvement of Japan for co-creation of mutually beneficial cooperation.

The two Leaders reaffirmed the importance of cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism and violent extremism as well as border control and the fight against illicit drug trafficking. The Tajikistan side expressed gratitude for Japan's assistance so far.

The Japanese side highly appreciated Tajikistan's active participation in various activities and processes, as well as the unique experience of the country in combating international terrorism, violent extremism, and other threats to the regional and international security. In this context the important role of Dushanbe Process on Counter Terrorism and its Financing launched by the initiative of the Republic of Tajikistan in tackling security threats and in enhancing international collaboration in countering terrorism and in building robust border mechanisms was underlined by the Japanese side.

The two Leaders concurred on the further development of their collaboration, including through the implementation of the bilateral cooperation and initiatives exemplified below, in line with the three priority areas of cooperation, reflected in the Joint Declaration of the Summit of the "Central Asia plus Japan" Dialogue (Tokyo Declaration) adopted on December 20, 2025 in Tokyo.

I Three Priority Areas of Cooperation

Green Economy and Resilience: Cooperation including new industry development and industrial upgrading consistent with climate change measures

1. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Exchange of Notes concerning a grant for “the Project for the Construction of the Substation for the Bulk Power System in Dushanbe (Detailed Design)”. Both sides also welcomed the commencement of grant project for the improvement of water supply system in Jomi District, Khatlon Region and implementation of a technical cooperation project for strengthening the implementation capacity of water supply services through introduction of volumetric flow meter.
2. Japan welcomed Tajikistan’s global initiatives on water-related issues, including hosting in the framework of the Dushanbe Water Process the Fourth High-Level International Conference on the “Decade for Action ‘Water for Sustainable Development’, 2018-2028” in May 2026 in Dushanbe as an important preparatory event for the United Nations 2028 Water Conference. Also, both sides affirmed the importance of the initiatives of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan on the preservation of glaciers.
3. Both sides acknowledged that climate change is a pressing issue of our era with far-reaching and unparalleled effects. In this context, both sides welcomed the UN General Assembly Resolution 77/158, titled International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation, 2025 and commended the successful holding of the High-Level International Conference on Glaciers’ Preservation in Tajikistan in 2025. In this context, the Tajikistan side expressed its gratitude to Japan for active participation at the Conference and valuable contribution to its outcomes.
4. Recognizing the importance of simultaneously achieving economic growth and energy security and decarbonization, both sides concurred on the achievement of the common goal of carbon neutrality/net-zero following various pathways. In this regard, Japan will support the formulation of an energy transition roadmap toward the net-zero goal.
5. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on the realization of energy transitions between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan as the progress of the outcomes of the Economic and Energy Dialogue of the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue held in September 2023 and holding of the second Economic and Energy Dialogue of the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue in September 2025.

6. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of industry between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies of the Republic of Tajikistan.
7. Both sides welcomed academic exchanges, including between Akita University (Japan) and National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan for and the promotion of research eco-systems such as “The Project for the Development of a Decarbonized Heat Energy Supply System Using Ground Heat Source” utilizing the framework of Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS).
8. Both sides welcomed the progress in cooperation, using Greenhouse gases Observing SATellite (GOSAT) series for preparing more accurate and transparent reports of greenhouse gas emissions to be submitted within the framework of the Paris Agreement.
9. Tajikistan expressed appreciation for Japan’s assistance in stabilization of the power supply system in Tajikistan through Japan-EBRD Cooperation Fund.
10. Both sides expressed their intention to work together to implement the human resource development project on energy efficiency and conservation for energy efficiency and conservation policy makers of Tajikistan.
11. Regarding global issues such as environmental issues and human rights, both sides concurred on cooperating in the UN and other forums under the concept of the human security to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
12. Both sides welcomed the progress of support for disaster risk reduction in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and for strengthening urban resilience, including cooperation in the field of disaster reduction through the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
13. Japan will provide support to strengthen Tajikistan's efforts toward disaster risk reduction and urban resilience through the Japan-World Bank Program for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries under the World Bank Tokyo Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Hub.
14. Both sides welcomed the success of the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan. Both sides welcomed the successful holding of Tajikistan’s National Day on June 27, 2025. Also, Japan welcomed Tajikistan’s decision to participate in GREENxEXPO 2027.
15. Both sides welcomed the approval of the project of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), “Improving Climate Resilient Pasture Management”, with financial cooperation by Japan, which has already supported over a hundred ADB projects in Tajikistan.

Connectivity: Enhancing logistics, transportation, and people-to-people exchanges

16. Both sides welcomed Japan's new approach named "Co-creation for common agenda initiative" aiming to maximize collective impact of development by using Official Development Assistance (ODA) more strategically as a catalyst to involve various public and private actors. In this regard, both sides concurred on promoting and expanding cooperation through this new approach regarding "Trans-Caspian International Transport Route" to enhance connectivity within the region, and from Central Asia to the world. As part of the cooperation, both sides welcomed the implementation of training for customs officials in collaboration with the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the signing of the Exchange of Notes on Japan's support for "the Project for the Improvement of Freight-Scanning Equipment at Spitamen Customs on the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route".

17. Both sides welcomed the progress in people-to-people exchanges such as youth and grassroots exchanges through JICA youth training and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers.

18. Both sides concurred on the importance of cooperation in the field of tourism to promote people-to-people exchanges, including developing sustainable eco-tourism in Tajikistan and encouraging mutual travel. To this end, both sides concurred on pursuing practical measures focusing on skill development, promotional activities, and facilitating travel.

19. Both sides concurred on launching the Japan-Tajikistan Consultations on Afghanistan issue.

20. Both sides acknowledged that the development of basic infrastructure, provision of vocational training and support for the promotion of economic activities through a grant for "the Project for Livelihood Improvement Promotion in Tajik-Afghan Cross-Border Areas (LITACA)" and "the Project for Effective Border Management Promotion Applying Human Security Approach for Border Communities with Afghanistan (BMP)" contributed to improving livelihoods in the border areas of Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

21. Tajikistan appreciated Japan's assistance to Tajikistan and other Central Asian countries through the provision of equipment to strengthen the functions of border control offices with Afghanistan, training to improve the counternarcotics capacity of border control agency staff. Both sides welcomed the successful holding of the "Central Asian Counter-Terrorism Workshop" hosted by the Government of Japan on February 14 this year, with the participation of law enforcement authorities from five Central Asian countries, including Tajikistan. Both sides also welcomed Japan's further capacity building assistance through JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Group and Region Focus, "Countermeasures against International Terrorism".

22. The Tajikistan side appreciated Japan's contribution to capacity building of officials in the field of disaster risk reduction. Tajikistan appreciated the invitation of Tajikistan's officials in the field of disaster risk reduction to a meeting between Central Asian and Japanese companies, held in Tokyo in March 2024, to exchange opinions on disaster risk reduction.

23. Both sides welcomed the progress in research cooperation on plant genetic resources between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan, and welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on agricultural cooperation including the exchange of information on agricultural policies and research cooperation.

24. Both sides concurred on working together to develop and support governance and ecosystem for safe, secure, and trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) aimed at harnessing its potential to achieve sustainable economic growth and to address social challenges, including through newly launched Japan-Central Asia Partnership for AI Cooperation. They also highlighted the importance of facilitating free, secure and trusted cross-border data flows as a critical driver of the digital economy. In this context both sides look forward to discussing possible cooperation on implementation of the resolution titled "Role of artificial intelligence in creating new opportunities for sustainable development in Central Asia" adopted by the UNGA on July 25, 2025 on the initiative of Tajikistan, including the establishment of a regional artificial intelligence center in Dushanbe, to contribute, among other things, to the creation of new opportunities for sustainable development in Central Asia.

25. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of Transport between the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan and the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Human Resource and Social System Development: Prospering with Empowered Human Resources through the Partnership between Japan and Tajikistan

26. Both sides shared a recognition of the importance of strong economic ties for the overall development of the bilateral relationship and expressed their intention to strengthen cooperation in trade, investment, and digital transformation. Both sides also recognized the necessity of continuous improvement of the business environment, including procedures related to import and export, and the promotion of innovation-driven industries.

27. Both sides welcomed the promotion of dialogue between the two countries through Japan-Tajikistan Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Technical and

Scientific Cooperation held in June 2025, and political consultations held in July 2025.

28. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Tajikistan for the Liberalization, Promotion and Protection of Investment, which intends to develop a stable and transparent environment for promoting investments between Japan and Tajikistan. Both sides also affirmed the importance of Japan–Tajikistan Network for Investment Environment Improvement to facilitate dialogue and partnership between the stakeholders of the two countries.

29. Both sides highly appreciated the track record of human resources trained under “the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)” through grants getting appointed to senior government positions of Tajikistan and welcomed the signing and exchange of note in August 2025 for the implementation of JDS for the next period. Both sides also concurred on continuing cooperation on Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia (JISPA).

30. Both sides concurred on the collaboration on the “One Village, One Product (OVOP)” movement, which also contributes to women’s empowerment and the Women, Peace and Security (WPS).

31. Both sides appreciated Japan’s assistance to Tajikistan in the areas of health and sanitation, social welfare of the population, human resource development and professional development, Grant for Grassroots Human Security Projects, which have been provided in the framework of ODA, and other programs.

32. Both sides welcomed the establishment of JICA Chair in Tajik National University.

33. Both sides welcomed the progress made by the National Development Council (NDC) Secretariat Advisor in the policy evaluation capacity training for 1,000 administrative officials from Tajikistan’s various ministries and expressed their expectation that these officials would contribute to the monitoring and evaluation process of the Tajikistan Medium-Term Development Program (2021-2025).

34. Both sides welcomed the exchange of faculty and students between Akita University of Japan and Tajik National University, between Tsukuba University of Japan and Tajik National University, and between Tsukuba University and Tajik International University of Foreign Languages.

35. Both sides reaffirmed the importance of Japan’s assistance to Tajikistan socio-economic development through the Asian Development Fund of the ADB, and welcomed steady progress of the projects in Tajikistan under ADF14.

II Cooperation in other fields

36. Tajikistan appreciated the cultural exchange, Japanese language education and training programs conducted by the Embassy of Japan in Tajikistan and the Japan Foundation to strengthen bilateral relations.

37. Both sides confirmed the importance of promoting exchange between Japan and Tajikistan through sports, including football and “Budo (martial arts)”. Both sides emphasized that such activities serve as a valuable tool for people-to-people exchange, fostering mutual understanding, and strengthening the bilateral friendship between the two nations.

38. The Leaders expressed their confidence that this Joint Statement would open new opportunities for the further development of friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between Japan and the Republic of Tajikistan in the spirit of partnership, respect, and shared prosperity.

39. President Emomali RAHMON expressed his gratitude to the Japanese side for the warm hospitality and organizing the visit at a high level, and extended an invitation to Prime Minister TAKAICHI Sanae to pay an official visit to the Republic of Tajikistan at a mutually convenient time.

Prime Minister of Japan

**President of the Republic of
Tajikistan**

**Prime Minister
TAKAICHI Sanae**

**President
Emomali RAHMON**