

**Speech Presented by His Excellency Mr Yamagami Shingo,
Ambassador of Japan to Australia
On the occasion of the Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain (HESC),
12 March 2021**

1. The trust between Japan and Australia

Minister Chester,
Minister Taylor,
Minister Pallas,
Dr Finkel,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentleman,

For over a century, Japanese companies have been investing in Australian mining, contributing to the development of the industry and creating jobs in Australia.

Likewise, resources and energy imported from Australia has been a main driver of Japan's economic growth. Decades of stable supply and investment has built strong trust amongst the businesses of our two nations.

Today, with this trust as our foundation, our cooperation now covers an even wider range of sectors, from international trade and investment to security and intelligence cooperation.

2. Tackling climate change

As we face humankind's shared challenge, the global response to climate change, our trust in one another is ever more significant. Australia and Japan are ideal partners in the fight against climate change, particularly at this time when the resilience of global supply chains is being tested.

Our two nations are working towards the shared aim of carbon neutrality; an objective which can be efficiently achieved through technology-led advances in the energy sector like the one we are celebrating today.

3. The World's First Hydrogen supply Chain

The world's first global hydrogen supply chain project is being driven by an all Japanese multi-industry consortium. Its success will have an enormous impact on both our nations.

Japanese energy consuming industries such as the automotive industry will be transformed forever when a stable supply of hydrogen fuel becomes commercially available. Australia too will benefit immensely as it leaps closer to its goal of becoming a global leader in the supply of clean hydrogen energy.

I for one am thrilled to be able to witness the fruition of this revolutionary and historic project. It is my sincere hope that its success will lead to the next Golden Era for the industries of our two nations. Thank you.