



Third Arctic Science Ministerial

5th Briefing Meeting Questions & Answers

AGENDA FOR THE FIFTH BRIEFING MEETING

- Ministerial Preparation
 - Ministerial Format
 - Draft Program
 - Registration Process
- ASM3 Deliverables overview
 - Joint Statement Review Process
 - Structure of ASM3 Report and Online Resources
 - Arctic Research Overviews
- ASM3 Webinar Series update
- Arctic Science Funders Forum update
- Arctic Circle Japan Forum update

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Ministerial Preparation

1. Is online participation limited to 5 people per delegation? Can delegations be split between online and in-person?

Yes, the delegation size is limited to the set number of 5-people for countries/governments and 3 people per Indigenous Organization. However, delegations may be split between online and in-person.

2. Will vaccinated personnel be subjected to the same measures upon arrival?

At present Japan does not have different measures for vaccinated personnel, though we expect that measures will be updated after the vaccination for the general population has begun in Japan. MEXT will share the updates on these measures directly with delegates as soon as they are available.

3. Will PCR tests for leaving Japan be facilitated if required for our return destination?

Currently, PCR test at HANEDA airport is not provided. For those who need the test before leaving Japan, MEXT will make arrangements with a local hospital for a pre-departure PCR test.

4. As there are assumably will be a few delegations that participate in ASM3 online, how will be the Signing of the Joint Statement be realized for them?

The current strategy for this is for each signatory to receive their own copy of the Joint Statement to be signed by them and sent back to the organizers to compile which will both save time during the meeting and allow for all to remain socially distant.

5. Within Tokyo, are the delegates allowed to use Taxis? Are taxis considered public transport?

Taxis are considered public transport under current restrictions in Tokyo so they may not be used by delegates. Transportation while in Japan should be arranged by the local embassy of each country.

6. Is the format 1 HoD +2 delegates +2 (interpreter, security, or embassy representative)?

Yes.

7. What is the delegation size Indigenous Organizations?

It is 1 HoD +2 delegates.

8. In terms of itinerary of delegates in Tokyo, what are the limitations, can they arrange for meetings with other HoDs or Japan Ministry officials? Note that they will have the day free until 7pm on 08 and 09 May.

Delegates may arrange their schedules in coordination with local guidelines regarding social distance and with coordination support from MEXT and local embassies. Small meeting rooms in the venue have been reserved for side meetings among the participants. Procedure for reserving a meeting room at the venue will be shared at a later date.

9. Do you have information from countries that would like to participate on-site?

Yes. We have indication that some plan to attend the meeting in-person, some online, and the majority are undecided.

10. Is the format 1 HoD +2 Delegates +2 (Interpreter, Security, or Embassy representative)?

Yes.

11. Will there be time for speeches from Ministers?

Yes. Each HoD, including Indigenous Organizations, will be given the chance to give a short statement during the program. These will be broken-up by theme. We ask that each delegation submit their ranked choice for which theme they would like to give their statement under. Each HoD will be given three-minutes to make a speech.

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Arctic Circle Japan Forum update

12. When do you anticipate to have the date of the Arctic Circle Japan Forum be announced?

Dates could be announced as early as this summer. The new dates for the Japan Forum are tentatively scheduled for the last quarter of 2021.