

Top  
CommitmentSustainability  
Promotion SystemJFR  
Materiality IssuesContribution to  
a Low-Carbon  
SocietyManagement  
of the Entire  
Supply ChainCoexistence  
with Local  
CommunitiesPromotion of  
DiversityRealization  
of Work-Life  
BalanceOperating  
Companies'  
ESG InitiativesOutside  
Director's  
Message

Governance

Data

Top Message → **Message from Outside Expert** Message from ESG Officer JFR Business Strategy JFR Mission Statement System Policy on Sustainability

## Sustainability Initiatives Expected of J. Front Retailing

**YAMAMOTO Ryoichi** Emeritus Professor, The University of Tokyo

1,200. In Japan, Iki (Nagasaki), Kamakura (Kanagawa), Hakuba (Nagano), Nagano, and Oki (Fukuoka) have declared. Needless to say, a local government or a city cannot be carbon neutral unless all constituents including energy, traffic, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, factories, and stores aim to be carbon neutral. 77 countries committed to being carbon neutral by 2050 in the UN Climate Action Summit in September. Why?

It is becoming clear that some of earth's climate systems such as Arctic sea ice in summer, Greenland ice sheet, and the west Antarctic ice sheet will begin to exceed a tipping point if the global average temperature increases 1.5°C above the pre-industrial levels.

Young people across the world, who are afraid that the global average temperature will begin to exceed a tipping point by as early as 2030 and that we will begin to face climate crisis and environmental decay, began climate strikes to call for radical measures. The climate strikes were conducted immediately before the UN Climate Action Summit on September 20 and it is reported that four million people joined the strikes throughout the world. In Japan, 5,000 people joined, and in Osaka, hundreds of people marched from Osaka City Central Public Hall in Nakanoshima.

On this day, September 20, the new main building of the

Daimaru Shinsaibashi store was opened. The biggest feature of the new main building is to aim to be carbon neutral from the beginning. J. Front Retailing formulated the Eco Vision and set a goal of zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050. The main building of the Daimaru Shinsaibashi store is positioned as a flagship store to promote EGS initiatives. It is an ethical initiative, which is appropriate for the company that operates under the corporate credo of Service before Profit, and it is also a challenge ahead of a spirit of the times.

The Oshio Rebellion at the end of Edo period reminded me for no reason. It is said that the Daimaru store escaped burning due to its reputation as a philanthropic merchant. I thought the main building of the Shinsaibashi store, which is carbon neutral, would escape from being set on fire by young people who would join the climate strike in the future.

In retrospect, it is said that the first modern department store is Bon Marche, which was founded by Mr. and Ms. Boucicaut in the middle of the 19th century in France. Bon Marche was committed to showing consumers ideals and goals to be achieved and encouraging them. I sincerely hope the Daimaru Shinsaibashi store will provide citizens with ethical beauty, ethical comfort, ethical food, and ethical life, which protect the global environment and climate as a model of future department stores.

I name famous cities in the world: London, Vancouver, Edinburgh, Basel, San Francisco, Ottawa, Dublin, Geneva, Milan, Napoli, Wellington, Amsterdam, New York, Bonn, Dusseldorf, Warsaw, Koln, Paris, Melbourne, Brussels, Madrid, Rome, Toronto, Hawaii, Budapest, and Miami. Do you know what they mean? Of course, it is not a tourism city ranking. They are the cities that have declared a climate emergency at their council meetings for one year from December 2018 and aim to be carbon neutral by 2050, which are listed in order of declaration date.

The number of cities that have declared already exceeded