

Statement by Mr. Masakazu Hamachi
Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Madam Moderator, thank you very much.

I am honored to attend this memorable meeting to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the UNDP.

Please allow me to start my intervention by touching on long-running partnership between Japan and UNDP

I simply cannot list all areas and issues on which Japan and UNDP have been partnering. But let me share with you one example, which is how we have been promoting the concept of human security. In 1994, the UNDP Human Development Report suggested the human security concept, which is now an important philosophy of Japan's foreign policy and development cooperation.

I believe the significance of human security is widely recognized through "people-centered approach". The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development proclaimed that "no one will be left behind". We need approaches based on

the concept of Human security so as to achieve the 2030 agenda.

Madam Moderator,

UNDP is expected to play a critical role. I would like to express two specific expectations for UNDP. First, UNDP has enough experience to help mobilizing domestic financial resources through fighting against corruption and helping weak institutional capacities. Good governance is a crucial element to utilize domestic resources efficiently and effectively.

Second, UNDP can play a significant role in promoting the Humanitarian-Development nexus, in order to efficiently utilize finance as well as address current crises originating from continuing conflicts, and natural disasters. Clearly, when facing a crisis, we need to take immediate action from a humanitarian standpoint, and at the same time, we must have a longer-term view for development such as assistance for empowerment of displaced people, as well as local residents and administrations of host regions. The Humanitarian-Development nexus is a key for helping institutions to use a variety of resources efficiently and also for establishing more resilient communities.

Madam Moderator,

Let me conclude my intervention by stressing our determination to implement the 2030 Agenda in collaboration with UNDP. Last month, the Japanese National Diet approved the supplementary budget for development cooperation, and it includes a funding for UNDP, which amounts to 267 million US dollars. With these funds, 51 projects will be implemented by UNDP. Most projects include components targeting youth, women, and children, and also consider the Humanitarian-Development nexus. Through such cooperation, we promise to strengthen the partnership with UNDP in order to leave no one behind.

I thank you for your attention.

(End)