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**Statement by Mr. Tomoya Yamaguchi  
First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations**

**Agenda item 137: Improving the financial situation of the United Nations  
Main Session of the Fifth Committee**

**18 October 2019**

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to thank Ms. Catherine Pollard, Under-Secretary-General for Management, Strategy, Policy and Compliance, for providing last week a comprehensive overview of the financial situation of the United Nations.

My delegation notes that the repeated communications issued by the Secretary-General, as well as report provided by Ms. Pollard, indicate that the United Nations is facing a liquidity problem. We also note that, under the current situation, the Secretariat has been taking austerity measures with respect to the program budget.

Mr. Chair,

Japan would like to emphasize that the simplest and best solution to address the liquidity problem is for all Member

In addition, to ensure sound financial situation of the UN, it is essential to review duplicated mandates, to prioritize mandates and to implement them within limited resources as effectively and efficiently as possible.

With respect to the PKO budget, my delegation welcomes the improvement of its liquidity after the General Assembly approved to permit cross-borrowing across active missions and to assess for a full year, which has enabled prompt payments for troop and formed police units.

Mr. Chair,

I would like to close my statement by reiterating the importance of fiscal discipline in formulation and deliberation of budgets in order to allocate necessary and sufficient resources for the delivery of the given mandates. We expect that further efforts in this direction will continue to be made.

Thank you.