



Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

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(Check Against Delivery)

Statement by Ambassador Jun Yamazaki

High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development

7 December 2011

Mr. Vice-President,

(MDGs)

While the world faces a multitude of pressing development challenges, Japan (MDGs). In order to achieve them by the target date of 2015, the global community must demonstrate clear political will and work together with all stakeholders to accelerate efforts to deliver concrete results on the ground.

In this regard, and to keep momentum from the UN High-level Plenary Meeting on MDGs last year, the Government of Japan hosted the High-level Meeting in Tokyo in June this year, which was attended by many stakeholders including 110 countries. Furthermore, during the General Debate in the General Assembly in September, Prime Minister Noda reiterated Japan's unshaken commitment to the MDGs, focusing in particular on health and education. And in the same week, Foreign Minister Gamba, together with other Member States and international organizations, hosted a ministerial-level meeting in which 400 participants engaged in a wide range of important concepts such as

being used on the ground.

During the above-mentioned meetings, we also initiated discussions on the international development agenda beyond 2015. Japan looks forward to actively making a useful contribution to the so-called Post-MDGs by providing useful venues for stakeholders as well as by participating in important discussions in various fora in the

(Development assistance)

Mr. Vice-President,

Development assistance for development has long been an essential tool to attain one of the fundamental aims of the United Nations; namely the promotion of social progress and better living conditions. In the face of economic uncertainty and financial unrest, donor countries should stay firm with regard to the commitments they have made to provide assistance.

At the same time, we must keep in mind that financing is not an end in itself but a means to achieve development. Therefore, we need to be results-oriented, paying more attention to the delivery of resources to meet development needs. Because many donor countries are suffering from severe fiscal constraints, aid effectiveness based on the principles of transparency, accountability and mutual accountability is now more critical than ever.

For these reasons, the fact that ODA on a global scale increased in 2010 and is projected to increase further in 2011 is a positive development. In the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March of this year, Japan remains committed to faithfully implementing all the international commitments — both in terms of quantity and quality — made in response to the earthquake.

Furthermore, during the General Debate in the General Assembly this year, Japan announced its commitment to achieving the MDG target of ODA of 0.7% of GNP by 2015. While Japan is on track to achieve this target, it is also committed to delivering the progress made since TICAD IV in 2008, such as doubling its ODA to Africa and assisting in the implementation of the African Union's Agenda 2063. Japan will continue to translate increased aid into concrete results and actual improvement in the lives of African people. Regarding support for developing countries in order to address climate change, Japan will continue to provide support for the implementation of the Green Growth Strategy.

Japan will continue to provide support for the implementation of the Green Growth Strategy out of the 15 billion dollars pledged for fast-start finance up to next year, and will continue to give support beyond 2012.

The responsibility for development lies with both developed and developing countries, and by both the public and private sectors. This responsibility must be shared when all stakeholders, including the government, civil society and academia must work in partnership

Japan has actively engaged in triangular cooperation and South-South cooperation with developing countries. Japan's history of foreign assistance began in 1954, when it was significant for Japan. The rhetorical difference between solidarity and aid-effectiveness should not prevent South-South cooperation with concrete actions on

Just to introduce one concrete example, Japan has contributed to the development of Mozambique. Mozambique is a major agricultural area. Japan, Brazil and Mozambique are now promoting agricultural development in the tropical savanna region of Mozambique.

Furthermore, in order to facilitate the fruitful interactions of all stakeholders, the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Effective Development, established at Doha HI F-4 last week, established a framework for development cooperation that embraces government, private sector including civil society, foundations and other actors.

Forms of development cooperation, including South-South cooperation, should be embedded in the discussions we have at the UN.

Finally with regard to development assistance, in order to mobilize a wide range of resources to meet the demand for global development, innovative sources of financing could be further enhanced and such modality could be used to contribute to the achievement of the MDGs.

Mr Vice-President,

I would also like to touch upon other major areas of the Monterrey Consensus.

(Trade)

Expansion of trade is a strong engine for development, and therefore Japan has been active in enhancing trade-related measures since the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Conference including Trade Related ODA, with 100 billion dollars at commitment base regardless of the impact on the Development Agenda(DDA), we should also approach the upcoming WTO Ministerial

(Debt Sustainability)

the issue of sustainable debt management to achieve national development goals. At the same time, we should bear in mind that the Doha Declaration called for all creditors to contribute their fair share and become involved in the international debt resolution mechanisms.

(Systemic Issues)

In addition to the recent reform of international financial institutions in improving their remaining activities to the world financial and economic crisis, we also acknowledge the need to further reform their governance

(Conclusion)

In conclusion, allow me to express the hope that the discussions at this

World Leaders Dialogue will provide a valuable input to the upcoming important meetings

of the G20 and the Development Cooperation Forum in 2012.

(end)