



Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

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Comments of the Delegation of Japan

Informal consultations on the contents of the outcome document
of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development

General Assembly

9 June

First of all, I would like to join the previous speakers in expressing my gratitude to the Co-Chairs for convening this meeting. I would also like to take this occasion to commend them for their tactful and able leadership of the review sessions, which succeeded in providing us with guidance on how we should proceed with our work.

Allow me to briefly express the basic position of the Government of Japan on the outcome document that is to be produced. In our view:

1. It should be short and political in nature.

What the world needs from the review conference is a strong declaration that the international community has the political will necessary to fully implement the Monterrey Consensus and achieve the MDGs and other international development goals. It does not need a long-winded diagnosis of the problems we face or a detailed prescription for resolving them. The document should be succinct and straightforward.

2. It should *not* re-open the Monterrey Consensus.

The whole purpose of this process is to review the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus. What is critically important now is meeting existing commitments, not making new ones.

3. It should strike a balance and focus on shared responsibilities.

The document should cover the factors identified in OP2 of the modalities resolution (A/62/187) in a balanced manner, taking into account that development is a shared responsibility between partners. The last thing we

want to see is fingers being pointed or accusations flung. We do not need a floor battle. Rather, what is needed is collaboration between partners working towards common goals. By the same token, all donors, creditors, and investors, both traditional and new, should comply with relevant international norms and act responsibly.

4. It should shed light on the importance of sustainable economic growth.

Sustainable economic growth is indispensable for development and the elimination of poverty. The document should stress the importance of development of social and economic infrastructure, including legal systems, and above all, development of human resources. This should be achieved through development-oriented international assistance and the ownership of developing partners.

5. It should encourage the further engagement of all stakeholders.

One of the virtues of the Monterrey Consensus is its emphasis on the involvement of all relevant stakeholders. Synergies between public and private funding can lead to the creation of jobs, technology transfers, and trade- and investment-driven sustainable growth, which cannot be achieved by ODA alone.

6. It should adequately address new challenges and emerging issues.

New and emerging challenges and issues, those that are structural in nature and likely to be with us for a long time, need to be addressed in the outcome document. On the other hand, if there is too much of a focus on recent phenomena and why they have occurred, it will tarnish the virtues of the Monterrey Consensus. In addition, entering into new commitments on emerging issues would be ill-advised. Our focus should be the implementation of the Consensus.

In closing, I wish only to say to the Co-Chairs that my delegation supports the open and transparent approach that you have taken and that it will participate in the forthcoming negotiations in a constructive manner.

Thank you very much.