

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Tsuneo Nishida, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, as outgoing Chairman of the Security Council Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, at the 6457th meeting of the Security Council on “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”- 20 December 2010**

“[...] Allow me now to say a few words in my capacity as Chair of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions. I would like to thank all members for their cooperation and constructive input.

The Informal Working Group initially worked on improving the implementation of previously agreed measures to improve the working methods of the Council, including presidential note S/2006/507 of 2006. The Informal Working Group focused on such issues as the Council’s interaction with non-members and other entities, including the Peacebuilding Commission; enhancing dialogue with troop- and police-contributing countries; the format of Council meetings; Security Council missions; and the timing of the issuance of reports of the Secretary-General.

The Security Council held an open debate on its working methods in April of this year under Japan’s presidency (see S/PV.6300). Thirty-eight non-members participated, and statements were made on behalf of many regional groups. We believe that it was a constructive discussion. We hope the Council will periodically hold such Open Debates.

Taking note of the views expressed by Member States during the open debate, the Informal Working Group worked to revise presidential note S/2010/507 and the new note (S/2010/507) was adopted by the Council on 27 July. In the new note, new measures to enhance the Council’s interaction with non-members and other relevant entities are of particular significance. The informal dialogue is a useful tool in this regard. Enhancing transparency, efficiency and interaction with non-Council members benefits Security Council members and non-Members alike. I hope that the Informal Working Group will continue its effort in these areas in the coming years.

Japan recently finished printing the successor to the so called “Blue Book”. The new Book includes document S/2010/507 and other useful documents. We hope it will be a user-friendly guide to the working methods of the Council. We will make them available to all missions. I have brought a few copies here today, and hope that anyone who is interested will take one on his or her way out.”