

**Statement by Mr. Noboru Sekiguchi,
Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations**

Workshop for Dialogue on the Longer-term Positioning of the UNDS

7 July 2016

Mr. Vice-President,

To begin, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the leadership you, Ambassador Palma have shown during this endeavor of the ECOSOC, as well as for the efforts of the Independent Team of Advisors (ITA) to conclude their proposals in just five months, and for the valuable and suggestive inputs provided to the ITA by the Member States and other related entities. We hope to continue the discussion on the Longer-term Positioning of the UN development System (UNDS) in the upcoming QCPR negotiation while referring to some of the more feasible elements of the options proposed by the ITA.

<Governance>

As the ITA pointed out in their document, it is vitally important that the UNDS provide clearer and more detailed breakdowns of its budgets. Taxpayers in every Member State demand effective budget implementation and the transparent use of their resources.

On the other hand, from what we observe of the situation of the existing joint boards of some Funds and Programmes, we do not see how we can expect greater efficiency and effectiveness by instituting a Mega Board like the proposed Sustainable Development Board. In addition, we would need to conduct a thorough and detailed cost-benefit analysis in order to consider such a Mega Board.

<RC System>

Given that we must respect national ownership and tailor assistance according to the differentiated situation of each country, we think that a country-level approach is indispensable. In this regard, we would like to again emphasize the importance of strengthening the RC system. We expect to continue to discuss concrete ways to do so in the upcoming QCPR process.

<Conclusion>

In conclusion, I believe that all Member States can agree on the necessity of improving the current, fragmented UNDS. On the other hand, we recognize that the UNDS as it has achieved remarkable outcomes from its activities. Therefore, Japan would like to find realistic ways to improve the UNDS that take into consideration both the challenges which it faces and the achievements which it has already made.

I thank you very much.