



## *Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations*

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Statement by Mr. Katsuhiko Takahashi  
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General Debate, Operational Activities Segment of ECOSOC  
New York, 17 July 2012

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to thank you, Ambassador Percaya, for organizing a very rich and productive three day session for the Operational Activities Segment of ECOSOC. My delegation is convinced that all presentations and discussions made during this Segment will surely feed into the QCPR positively.

Since this is an occasion to state our expectations for the upcoming QCPR, my delegation would like to present three points among other important elements which we place particular importance.

First, my delegation strongly believes that operational activities for development of the UN system should respond to the real needs of the programme countries in a flexible manner. Japan, taking the point of view of human security, has constantly stressed throughout the TCPR review process at ECOSOC, that UN operational activities should always be mindful of their ultimate objective, namely to reach out and help countries to better deliver assistance to people and communities in need.

Given current complex and diversifying development challenges, the UN system should adopt a people-centered approach that is comprehensive and multi-sectorial in order to match real needs on the ground. In this sense, my delegation welcomes the tangible progress being realized in the "Delivering as One" pilot and self-starter countries, and fully supports this sort of bottom-up approach as an engine to realize real improvement. My delegation is also of the view that having Resident Coordinators is crucial to promote such people-centered, multi-sectorial, and bottom-up approaches on behalf of the UN system. The Resident Coordinator system should be further strengthened so that it may work effectively and efficiently to support the ultimate objective of UN operational activities, including both development and humanitarian activities.

Second, referring to the "Report of the Secretary-General on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the UN system", Japan fully shares the view of the Secretary-General expressed on page 10 of the report that, "the development landscape is changing, and so too should development cooperation". Traditionally, development cooperation was a strictly north-to-south endeavor. Today however, because south-south cooperation has been steadily evolving and new development partners such as emerging economies, the private sector, foundations and others continue to enter into the global development community, we need a new global development partnership which includes all stakeholders, both traditional and new. The UN system should not miss the opportunity to be a part of this global effort, both in terms of securing sufficient funding from all development partners, including the new actors, and contributing to the effort to shape this new global development partnership. With this in mind, my delegation expects forward-looking and productive QCPR discussions around south-south and triangular cooperation, the functioning of the UN development system, and funding.

Third and finally, referring to the "Report of the Secretary-General on the analysis of the funding of operational activities for development of the UN system for 2010", Japan, as one of the largest donors of both total operational activities for development and development related operational activities, is of the view that discussions concerning core funding and non-core funding should be advanced to a level which reflects current realities. According to the SG report, non-core funding consists of thematic trust funds, multi-partner trust funds, one-funds, self-supporting local resources, and programmatic and project specific contributions. It is obvious that all these different modalities cannot be bundled together as if they were one funding modality and labeled "non-core". My delegation strongly feels the need to unpack the various non-core funding modalities and analyze them according to their diverse characteristics.

I must point out that in case of Japan, the single-donor programmatic and project-specific contributions that we make are aligned to the priorities of the programme country and formulated as joint efforts between the country offices of funds and programmes and our embassies and often respond to specific needs of the programme country. The positive value of this sort of mutually beneficial and bottom-up operation should not be undermined as we discuss ways to consider the so-called "fragmentation" of funding to the UN system.

I thank you.