

Remarks by H.E. Mr. OSUGA Takeshi
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Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations
ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment
17 May 2022, 10 am-12 pm

Mr. President,

I thank the Secretary-General for his report and the keynote on the implementation of the 2020 QCPR, highlighting the times of crisis.

In times of crisis, be it COVID, Myanmar, Afghanistan or Ukraine, the UN system has the comparative advantage to other international actors in the capacity to deliver.

However, despite the decades-long debate on humanitarian-development nexus, and “the triple nexus” in more recent years, there are barriers dividing each pillar. They are mostly for the managerial reasons, and less relevant from human security perspective.

I wish to make three questions in this regard, and submit the full statement in writing.

The flash appeal OCHA issued for Afghanistan in September last year included a small box, be it of only 10 lines, dedicated to UNDP. It was commendable, but also logical, in light of the UNDP’s work in that country. Could the same gesture be demonstrated for Ukraine, where UNDP had the largest number of staff until the invasion? This is my first question.

On financing, the categorization of humanitarian and development is artificial. We recognized that during the first year of COVID pandemic. Is there any progress toward integrating the data for both categories? Transparency and credibility of data is critical for incentivizing the donors.

My last question is addressed to you, Mr. President, and to ECOSOC members. Can we expect to hold in the near future a joint Humanitarian

and Operational Activities for Development Segment, and have our 3rd Committee experts and 2nd Committee experts mingle to discuss the nexus?

Thank you.

(257words)