

ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment

February 28th (Tue) 10:00 – 13:00

Statement by H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Minami

Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

Thank you very much Mister Moderator and at the outset, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the panelists for their excellent presentations. We would like to welcome Ms. Amina J. Mohammed as the new Deputy Secretary-General. We are looking forward to working with her for the reform of the UN Development System, which is a once in a decade challenge for us.

We are expecting the reports of the Secretary-General by June as requested through the QCPR resolution, and the Funds and Programmes are formulating their new Strategic Plan. My country supports the Secretary-General's strong message to emphasize crisis prevention as well as the recognition that sustaining development is both a cause and a result of peace. Now we should move forward to break the silo-approach and integrate the three pillars of the United Nations.

While it is important to consider how to reform the UN Development System, it is also important to have impacts on the ground, and not just to enhance the bureaucratic system of the United Nations. We must therefore achieve greater inter-agency policy coordination here in New York and translate that coordination into real positive impacts on the field. From this viewpoint, we believe that improving the Resident Coordinator System would be particularly effective.

However, I will also like to stress the importance of financing. After all, for the implementation of the SDGs, we believe the financing will be the key. The question is how to mobilize the resources in a coherent manner.

As far as I understand, Mr. Silberhorn of Germany stressed the importance of the overhauling of the funding structure in the United Nations. I would like to raise one question to Mr. Silberhorn. Could you elaborate a little bit what you have in mind about overhauling the funding mechanism of the United Nations? In relation to that, the

resources mobilized by the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank and the regional development banks will be crucial as well. So, I would also like to ask Mr. Silberhorn how to establish the relationships between the IFIs and the United Nations. Also, another question is how to mobilize the private sector funding for the implementation of SDGs on the ground. These are questions to Mr. Silberhorn, but I would like to welcome others to respond to my questions.