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Statement by Mr. Akihiro Tsuchimichi

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At the “UN Peacekeeping Ministerial”

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Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Japan, as a co-chair of all past summits and ministerial-level meetings on peacekeeping, values the opportunity to work with each country to enhance UN peacekeeping capabilities.

This year, Japan also contributed in the run-up to the Ministerial by co-hosting the preparatory meeting on “Partnership, Training and Capacity Building” with Indonesia and Ethiopia.

UN peacekeeping faces increasingly difficult challenges.

More effective capacity building efforts and stronger partnerships are required to sufficiently achieve the mandated tasks and ensure the safety and security of peacekeepers.

As an A4P champion for “performance and accountability,” Japan has implemented high-quality capacity building programs in line with the needs of each TCC by utilizing the knowledge of uniformed personnel.

In particular, with the UN, Japan launched the TPP in 2015, and has contributed to its expansion by conducting a series of training activities.

We appreciate the UN TPP team’s efforts, and we are pleased to see that many countries have signed on to the programme.

Now, I'd like to present Japan's pledge on UN peacekeeping.

First is Japan's contribution in the areas of partnerships, training and capacity buildings.

In addition to financial support to the TPP since 2015, Japan has dispatched a total of about 230 uniformed instructors with expertise in engineering and medical field to Training-of-Trainers and other courses.

They have trained about 360 UN peacekeepers in 17 countries in Asia and Africa.

Japan is committed to continuing such support.

Also, to provide essential training to TCCs, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan began remote training by implementing the Construction Process Management course online for Asian countries.

Going forward, Japan will explore further contributions in new areas of the TPP.

Furthermore, Japan is committed to expanding its contribution for high-quality capacity building in the medical field.

We will develop the "Field Medical Assistance Course" into a full-scale training package, and will seek funding to introduce the "electronic clinical adverse event reporting system" and "electronic medical record system."

In bilateral terms, Japan has thus far provided capacity building to countries in Asia, including Cambodia and Mongolia.

We are committed to continuing such bilateral efforts in peacekeeping operations.

At the Japan-Vietnam Defense Minister's Meeting last month, Japan decided to share its knowledge and experience, to support Vietnam's preparations for its participation in UNISFA as part of another capacity building initiative.

Japan will dispatch Japanese experts comprising mainly of Japan Ground Self-Defense Force's personnel to Vietnam.

Japan has also extended financial and capacity development support such as dispatch of uniformed instructors to peacekeeping training centers in Africa.

We are willing to continue our contribution to the centers.

Moreover, last year, Japan registered strategic air lift within the PCRS. We will contribute to air lift based on TCC's requests.

Second, Japan believes it is important to utilize our knowledge and skills acquired from past experiences.

Revision of the Specialized Training Materials for UN Engineer Units to cover Counter-IED is ongoing, and as the chair of the committee, Japan is committed to advancing the revision and distributing it to each country.

Further, Japan is considering hosting seminars in the first quarter of 2022 to further promote discussions on UN peacekeeping.

Finally, in terms of gender and women's empowerment, Japan will continue dispatching female staff officers to UNMISS Headquarters and uniformed female instructors to TPP activities.

Also, as the co-chair of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, Japan will stimulate activities in the WPS Platform – an initiative established by the working group under the Japan - Vietnam co-chairmanship.

Let me conclude by reiterating Japan's commitments to continued effective support for the enhancement of UN peacekeeping capabilities.

Thank you very much for your attention.