

Fourteenth United Nations Congress on
Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Statement of Japan at the High-level Segment
by Alternate Head of Delegation
Hiroyuki Tsuji, Vice-Minister of Justice

Your Excellency,
Vice President of the Congress,
Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Government of Japan, I would like to congratulate, Mr. Vice-President, on your election.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Ms. Ghada Waly, Secretary-General of the Congress, and all the members of the Secretariat for their diligent work that made this Congress possible despite the global pandemic.

Mr. Vice-President,

We are at an historic juncture.

Despite all the difficulties, we gathered here to carry the mantle of the Congress forward towards 2030.

We must not stop our endeavours towards building a society where the rule of law prevails and no one will be left behind.

Mr. Vice-President,

I welcome the adoption of the Kyoto Declaration.

The Kyoto Declaration is a compass that will navigate us on our journey to 2030.

Now is the time to turn our commitment into action.

Japan is ready to set sail with this compass, together with all the Member States and our strong partner, the UNODC.

Mr. Vice-President,

The Kyoto Declaration presents us with numerous perspectives.

Among others, I would like to highlight three points.

The first is multi-stakeholder partnership.

The concept of multi-stakeholder partnership encapsulates a fundamental truth –no individual, no civil society organization and no government can succeed alone.

The Kyoto Declaration sheds light on these partnerships, particularly, in reducing reoffending.

Japan will strive to work with all Member States in this regard by proposing and supporting the development of new UN standards and norms on reducing reoffending.

The second point is promoting international cooperation.

The Kyoto Declaration calls for strengthening international cooperation not only at the global

level but also at the regional level.

To make this tangible, Japan will further strengthen its support for Member States and the UNODC to develop regional networks among criminal justice practitioners in every region.

As the first step, Japan will support the creation of a network in the Asia-Pacific region.

The third is youth empowerment.

Youth empowerment is key to safe and secure society and promoting the rule of law.

Following the success of the Youth Forum for the Kyoto Congress, we will continue holding youth fora as an annual event, together with the UNODC and other partners.

Mr. Vice-President,

We need to steadily advance the discussion toward the achievement of the SDGs by

implementing Kyoto Declaration.

Japan stands ready to work with all Member States and UNODC.

Thank you.