

Japan's statement under Agenda Item 3
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Thank you, Mr. / Madame Vice-President,

First, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the Vice-president. I would also like to deeply appreciate the secretariat for its strong engagement in organizing the Congress.

Mr. / Madame Vice-President,

Good public safety is the bedrock of social and economic development, so crime prevention is a crucial value in achieving the SDGs.

Japan's experience shows that the key is working together with the community, that is 'police activities rooted in the community' and 'collaboration with multi-layered communities'.

'Police activities rooted in the community' is a core concept of Japanese community

policing. Its most typical feature is “Koban and Chuzaisho” system, where police boxes are installed to all corners of the country as hubs for police activities closely linked to the daily lives of local residents. Through various activities such as patrol and routine visit to each household, police officers there well understand the state of assigned areas and conduct activities accordingly or in response to the opinions from local residents while stay alert day and night and respond immediately to wide-ranging police matters. Such flow of “Koban” system serves to provide local residents with a sense of safety and security as well as foster a community mindset that supports crime prevention.

Meanwhile, ‘Collaboration with multi-layered communities’ aims to enhance overall

society's crime prevention functions. With a view to unifying the efforts of multi-layered communities, the police have established crime prevention networks that encompass local governments, local residents, companies and other stakeholders, where they actively exchange information and support voluntary crime prevention activities such as patrols. As of the end of 2019, the number of crime prevention volunteer groups adds up to around 46,000, which amounts to over 2,500,000 members nationwide.

Japan's international cooperation in this context is also notable. Several countries have developed community policing models based on "Koban" system, under the support of Japan International Cooperation Agency and Japan

Police.

Although those models are tailored to each country, its primary concept is common: working together with the community, which proves the universality of the core value of Japanese crime prevention. Japanese approach in crime prevention goes in line with the Kyoto Declaration that reiterates the importance of community-oriented policing, and Japan vows to keep developing this approach as ever.

Thank you.