

Japan's statement under agenda 6
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Thank you, Mr. Vice-President,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the vice-president. I would also like to express my deep gratitude to the Secretariat for its efforts to organize this Congress despite the global spread of COVID-19.

Mr. Vice-President,

As crime has become increasingly transnational, organized and complex, it has created unprecedented challenges. Against this background, I believe two points are important: First, the strengthening of the basic capacity of criminal justice institutions and practitioners; Second, enhancing cooperation between donors

and recipient countries of technical assistance through coordination and best use of limited resources.

Mr. Vice-President,

Let me touch upon the first point: capacity building.

To face new challenges, I believe, the most needed approach is to strengthen the basic capability of criminal justice institutions and practitioners.

Japan has been providing technical assistance focused on basic capacities of criminal justice practitioners for about 60 years through UNAFEI – the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. To date, UNAFEI has over 6,000 alumni from 139

jurisdictions. Some of them are participating in this Congress.

Japan will continue this effort. Further, we will expand our activity to empower the younger generation by organizing youth forums annually, to follow up on the Kyoto Declaration.

Mr. Vice-President,

Secondly, given the evolving complexity and accelerating speed of the globalization of crime, we need to have more efficient and effective technical assistance. This can be achieved by strengthening cooperation between donors and recipient countries.

To enhance the basic capacity of criminal justice practitioners, provision of assistance acutely addressing practical challenges is essential. To this end, enhanced coordination

among donors as well as between donors and recipient countries is necessary. Enhanced coordination will help to identify and overcome challenges. Japan would like to contribute to these efforts, as a follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration, by further strengthening its support for Member States and the UNODC to develop a regional networks among criminal justice practitioners in every region to share information and identify and solve problems together. As the first step of this initiative, Japan will support the launching of a network in the Asia-Pacific region for criminal justice practitioners.

Mr. Vice-President,

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected progress towards the achievement of the SDGs. However, we should see this not as a challenge

but as a chance to move forward to promote international cooperation. Japan, in partnership with all Member States, further commits itself to strengthening international cooperation.

Thank you.