Thank you Mr. Chair for giving me a floor.

Japan recognizes that the non-earmarked budget of UN–Habitat has a surplus in 2022 for the first time in 12 years, which is the result of a change in policy to a budget plan that matches the actual income situation rather than an ambitious budget plan, and we appreciate UN–Habitat’s tireless efforts. We request that UN–Habitat continue its efforts to manage finances so that expenditures do not exceed revenues.

The regional office for Asia and the Pacific contributes to UN–Habitat’s activities by disseminating excellent technologies possessed by various companies and universities in Japan to the Asia Pacific region and beyond in order to resolve issues related to urbanization in developing countries. However, as the position of Regional Director is vacant, Japan requests UN–Habitat to begin the recruitment process as soon as possible.

Thank you.