

National Statement by Mr. Yoshinobu Fukasawa,
Advisor to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and
Tourism (MLIT) of Japan
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the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
(UN-Habitat Assembly)
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Thank you, Honorable Chair,
Madam Executive Director,
Excellences,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me begin by expressing our sincere congratulations for the successful organization of this second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly after the crisis of Covid-19 pandemic.

The world is facing multiple crises such as climate change and increasing natural disasters, which make the role of UN-Habitat ever more important.

Japan has actively supported UN-Habitat since its establishment.

In close cooperation with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, or ROAP, in Fukuoka, Japan, Japan supports various projects related to improvement of human settlement environment including waste management and climate change adaptation.

In the field of spatial planning, Japan is promoting the Spatial Planning Platform (SPP), in close partnership with the UN Habitat ROAP, which enables stakeholders to share experiences and knowledge on spatial planning.

At the 5th SPP meeting held in last February, participants from 14 countries engaged in lively discussions on the theme of climate change adaptation.

Japan is developing a new national spatial plan this summer, and will continue to contribute to sustainable development worldwide, drawing on our latest experiences and knowledge.

In 2017, Japan established African Clean Cities Platform, or ACCP, in collaboration with 24 African countries and international organizations, including UN-Habitat, to promote and disseminate environmentally-sound waste management.

We are delighted that ACCP has been widely recognized and well established in Africa, with membership of 170 cities from 46 countries.

Through the ACCP, Japan aims to contribute to the realization of carbon-neutral and circular economies in Africa.

In addition, in November last year, together with UN-Habitat ROAP, Japan announced the "SUBARU Initiative" with the aim of creating climate-resilient cities in developing countries.

Through the establishment of various partnerships and other measures, we will promote the contribution of Japanese companies to solving issues in the field of climate change adaptation in cities in 42 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

In July this year, Japan is hosting the G7 Sustainable Urban Development Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu under the theme of "Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Together" .

The main pillars will be "Carbon Neutral and Resilient Cities," "Inclusive Cities," and "Digitalization in Cities."

We are greatly honored to have Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat attending the meeting.

We look forward to welcoming Madam Executive Director in Takamatsu and will work diligently to make the meeting a meaningful one.

It is thanks to the UN-Habitat ROAP in Fukuoka, Japan, that Japan has been able to work so closely with UN-Habitat in a number of areas.

In order to maintain and further this close collaboration, we look forward to a smooth recruitment process for the Regional Representative of Asia and the Pacific.

Japan will continue to work closely with UN-Habitat to address multiple crises.

Thank you very much.