

32nd Session of CCPCJ
Agenda Item 3: General Discussion
Statement by the Vice-Minister of Justice of Japan
Mr. Ryuji KAWAHARA

Madam Chair,

I would like to begin by congratulating you on your election as Chair of this Commission. I have every confidence in your leadership and the success of this session.

I also would like to thank Ms. Ghada WALY and the UNODC for the excellent work in organizing this session.

The Government of Japan wholeheartedly congratulates the United Arab Emirates for hosting the forthcoming Crime Congress. We are pleased to pass on the legacy of the Kyoto Congress to the UAE.

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Madam Chair,

Japan reaffirms its commitment to stand with Ukraine and strongly condemns Russia's aggression. This is an attack against fundamental values and the foundations of crime prevention and criminal justice efforts. It is a challenge to the work of the CCPCJ.

Japan is fully committed to assisting Ukraine's reconstruction efforts through supporting development of its legal infrastructure.

Madam Chair,

Japan has been promoting "Justice Affairs Diplomacy", as part of our coordinated diplomatic approach, which is an initiative to contribute to the promotion of fundamental values such as the rule of law and respect for human rights throughout the

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world. We believe this initiative has become more important than ever.

Implementing the Kyoto Declaration in close coordination with the UNODC and Member States is an important element.

For example, we have been holding the periodic “Global Youth Forum for a Culture of Lawfulness” to empower youth and the periodic “Criminal Justice Forum for Asia and the Pacific” (Crim-AP) to facilitate direct communication among criminal justice practitioners.

We are also leading the creation of new UN standards and norms on reducing reoffending.

Madame Chair,

This year is an important year, as Japan holds

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the G7 presidency and we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation. In July, Japan will host the “ASEAN-Japan Special Meeting of Justice Ministers” and the “G7 Justice Ministers’ Meeting”. We will also bring together justice ministers from both ASEAN and the G7. Japan hopes to strengthen cooperation between Member States and the UNODC.

[Conclusion]

Madam Chair,

I wish to conclude by extending my best wishes the success of this session toward further implementation of the Kyoto Declaration, and paving the way to the next Congress.

Thank you very much.