

**Statement by His Excellency Mr. Nobuo Kishi,
State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan**

**At the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees
Commonwealth Resort Munyonyo, Kampala
Friday, 23 June 2017**

His Excellency Mr. Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda,
His Excellency Mr. Guterres, UN Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to express our deepest appreciation to President Museveni and U.N. Secretary-General Guterres for the strong initiative to organize this Summit. Japan is fully committed to contributing to the success of this Summit.

I would like to extend Japan's highest appreciation to the Government of Uganda, which hosts a great number of refugees from neighboring countries.

Also, Japan supports the U.N. organizations addressing the unprecedented humanitarian crises.

For tackling the current humanitarian crises, Japan places importance on "humanitarian-development nexus" that provide both emergency humanitarian assistance and development cooperation in parallel for refugees and host communities.

Based on this philosophy, Japan will advance the following three points.

Firstly, Japan places importance on self-reliance of refugees. This enables us to make contribution to not only the swift return and repatriation of refugees, but also reducing the mid- and long-term costs of humanitarian assistance.

In this regard, Japan has supported capacity building for refugees, including rice farming training and vocational training in Uganda.

Secondly, Japan places emphasis on development of basic infrastructures. It is increasingly essential for both refugees and host communities to coexist peacefully.

To this end, Japan has implemented road improvement, construction of water supply facilities and expansion of primary schools and hospitals in Uganda. We are currently conducting needs assessment for further assistance.

Japan also supports capacity building of local government officers. On this issue, JICA co-hosted a side event yesterday with the Government of Uganda and UNDP.

Thirdly, Japan places emphasis on providing humanitarian assistance through international organizations as well as strengthening synergies between those projects and our bilateral development cooperation.

Japan will continue to respond to urgent humanitarian needs through its financial contribution.

In addition, JICA has achieved significant results in collaboration with UNHCR and WFP through the Promotion of Rice Development Project.

Japan has provided assistance of around 40 million US dollars in total for refugees and host communities in Uganda this year.

In addition, Japan has newly decided to extend Emergency Grant Aid amounting 10 million US dollars and will also provide additional Grand Aid in the field of medical and food assistance.

In conclusion, Japan expects that Uganda will become a role model for the solution of the refugee crisis through steady implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

Japan will support the Uganda's efforts and work proactively towards the successful conclusion of the Global Compact on Refugees scheduled in 2018 by utilizing expertise and lessons learnt from its cooperation in Uganda.

Thank you very much.