

**Statement by H.E. Ms. Kazuko Shiraishi  
Ambassador for Women, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs  
and Ambassador in charge of Arctic Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan  
At the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
High-level Event on the World Humanitarian Summit  
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Since the beginning, Japan has strongly supported the World Humanitarian Summit process. Co-hosting the second regional consultation in Tokyo was one of the contributions. As a country that has actively provided humanitarian assistance to promote human security – the fundamental concept focusing on the right and dignity of each and every individual, as well as one that has overcome numerous natural disasters, Japan continues to share its knowledge and experiences to contribute to the Summit process.

It is just one of the surprising statistics that the average period of displacement has now reached 17 years as humanitarian crisis tend to be more protracted and recurrent. In order to cope with this difficult situation, it is vital to involve development partners from the earliest stages of a crisis for further enhancing collaboration with humanitarian actors, and create necessary environment to promote cooperation between host communities and refugees as well as internally displaced persons as drivers of development and growth. To that end, Japan will work to further strengthen collaboration between humanitarian and development assistance.

For recurrent disasters, a wide range of efforts are required to make a society as a whole more resilient to natural disasters so as to minimize

the impact of crisis above and beyond the effective rapid response. As presented in the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Japan attaches importance to prior investment in disaster risk reduction from a longer-term perspective, the implementation of “Build Back Better”, and collaboration between central governments and various actors. To build such resilient communities is the necessary investment for the future to prevent another humanitarian crisis. Japan will cooperate with various countries in this regard including through the designation of the “World Tsunami Day” in order to raise awareness on the impact of tsunamis, and will promote this spirit in the whole international community.

Protection and empowerment of women is another key priority area for promoting effective humanitarian action. Japan has been actively working on to make a society in which women shine, and successfully held the “World Assembly for Women” (WAW!) for the second consecutive year in Tokyo. We should ensure the participation and empowerment of women throughout all phases of humanitarian action.

We expect that the World Humanitarian Summit serves as an opportunity to think together; come up with solutions to make humanitarian action more effective as well as to build society more resilient to crisis; and encourage broader partners to take action so as to enable international community to save more lives.

Thank you.