Statement by State Minister Sonoura The Global Fund 5th Replenishment Meeting (16 September, 2016 in Montreal)

Excellencies, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to attend the 5th Replenishment Meeting of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The Global Fund has been playing a major role in global health, and through its activities, has reached the remarkable achievement of saving 20 million lives. I would like to express my deepest appreciation for the endeavors and contributions by all those who have made this possible, including the secretariat led by Executive Director Dr. Dybul, respective governments, private sectors, and NGO members.

As a founding father, Japan has always attached utmost importance to the Global Fund, since it was established after the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000. Last December, Japan hosted a preparatory meeting for the 5th replenishment in Tokyo, which was the first time that such a meeting had been held outside of North America and Europe. We believe that the preparatory meeting in Tokyo helped facilitate fruitful discussions on necessary actions and resources towards the 5th replenishment period, and then successfully to hand over the reins to Prime Minister Trudeau for today's meeting.

At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in May this year, under Japan's presidency, global health was highlighted as one of the key agenda items, with the three main pillars being: strengthening of public health emergency responses; attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC) that contributes to preventing of and preparing for disease outbreaks; and strengthening Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) response. In the "G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health", G7 members reaffirmed the significant role of the Global Fund and expressed their support for a successful 5th Replenishment Meeting.

Moreover, at the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development last month, TICAD VI, we focused on the issue of global health as one of the three priority areas. I wish to express sincere appreciation to the Global Fund for co-hosting the side event "UHC in Africa," which was attended by Prime Minister Abe and distinguished guests. We witnessed the Global Fund's important role in ensuring UHC with African ownership.

We especially welcome the Fund's human security-based approach, which lays emphasis on each individual, aims to ensure their freedom and support their self-realization through empowering people and society. This approach is consistent with the Fund's dedication to the promotion of UHC and the grounds for the Fund's contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Ahead of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit, we pledged a total contribution of US\$800million to the Global Fund over the coming years. I hereby reaffirm Japan's intention to responsibly deliver upon our commitments, and to contribute even further to addressing the world's global health challenges.

Let me conclude by expressing our sincere wish for the further success of the Global Fund, supported by the intimate partnership of all participants. Thank you.

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