

**Opening Speech by Mr. Kazuya Nashida, Director General of International  
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At the Side Event of the first G20 DWG on  
Effective Triangular Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda  
Opening Session  
23 January 2019, Tokyo, Japan**

Excellences,

Ladies and gentlemen,

1. It is my pleasure to welcome you in Tokyo and hold the Side Event on “Effective Triangular Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda”, in cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Argentine Republic, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
  
2. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my gratitude to the co-organizers for their precious contribution during the conception and preparation of this event. Our thanks also go to all of the participants, especially our colleague from the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the distinguished speakers, who have kindly accepted to join us and share their wide experiences of South-South and Triangular Cooperation as practitioners.
  
3. Triangular cooperation, along with South-South Cooperation, has been increasingly recognized at different international fora, including the G20, as one of the key tools responding to the changing context of international development cooperation and the new needs for multi-stakeholder approaches.

4. In this regard, we highly appreciate the Argentine Republic's initiative that led to the adoption of the declaration "Building consensus for fair and sustainable development" in Buenos Aires in December 2018 under her G20 presidency, which recognizes South-South and triangular cooperation's important role in supporting the 2030 Agenda and implementing the G20 Action Plan on Sustainable Development.
  
5. This encouraging movement towards mainstreaming triangular cooperation at international level shall be supported by continuous and grounded exploration on how to make this form of cooperation more effective and beneficial for all of the actors concerned, in particular:
  - developing countries which are to benefit from triangular cooperation;
  - emerging and relatively advanced developing countries which are to provide their knowledge and expertise; and
  - developed countries which are to facilitate the collaboration between the first two actors.
  
6. It should be also noted that the distinction among these three types of actor can be dynamic, as developing countries are actual or potential providers of cooperation to other developing countries.
  
7. We believe that continuous and grounded exploration on effective ways of implementing triangular cooperation will lead to capacity building of emerging and developing economies as providers of cooperation, as well as mobilization of new development resources.

8. Today's Side Event has been conceptualized in order to provide some contribution to such an exploration, by presenting some specific types of triangular cooperation facilitated by Japan and other countries, with a focus on the roles of emerging and developing economies.
9. Japan, based on our Development Cooperation Charter as well as our own experiences of transforming from a recipient country to a donor country throughout our history since the 1950s, has long been aware of importance of taking advantage of knowledge and expertise owned by emerging and developing economies for international development cooperation.
10. Indeed, since its first triangular cooperation project in 1975, for more than 40 years, Japan has organized third country training programs for thousands of participants in total from all over the world.
11. The speakers' presentations and active participation from the floor will allow identifying key elements enabling the emerging and developing economies to play the most active roles in triangular cooperation as providers of cooperation, and the roles of other actors including the G20 for fostering such key elements.
12. Finally, let me conclude my remarks by hoping that such outcomes of this event will enrich the on-going discussion in Development Working Group, as well as discussion at the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) and the G20 under Saudi Arabia's presidency. Thank you.

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