

**Statement by Parliament Vice-Minister Kiyoto Tsuji  
At the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian  
Crisis in Yemen (February 26, 2019)**

Madame Chair and distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Japanese government, I would like to express my appreciation to the United Nations and the governments of Sweden and Switzerland for their initiatives.

First of all, I would like to mention that Japan shares the sense of urgency concerning the reality that the humanitarian situation in Yemen is deteriorating with each passing day. Due to prolonged fighting and the dire humanitarian situation, many innocent lives have been taken.

We should squarely face this devastating situation that has left more than 24 million people, or 80% of the population, in urgent need of humanitarian aid. In this regard, I would like to ask parties to the conflict to act in a constructive manner.

Madame Chair,

To solve the Yemen crisis, it is necessary to have dialogues between the parties. To this end, confidence building between both sides is essential.

The Stockholm Agreement reached last year was an important step toward stabilizing Yemen. Japan highly evaluates the efforts of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General, Mr. Martin Griffiths.

The steady implementation of the Stockholm Agreement is indispensable, and I strongly hope that further progress will be made in the peace talks. Japan pays careful attention to the current situation in Hodeida. Japan hopes agreement on Hodeida and its implementation will contribute to improvement of the situation in the city.

Japan will continue to support the mediation efforts by Mr. Griffiths, and stands ready to play a further role in this process.

Madame Chair,

Yemen's stability is crucial to achieve stability in the Middle East. In 2019, Japan will provide assistance of at least 52.8 million dollars in total to Yemen through international organizations.

In January, Japan decided to extend emergency grant aid of 12 million US dollars, through the World Food Programme (WFP), for the people suffering from the deteriorating hunger crisis in Yemen. Japan will also provide a total of 8 million US dollars for agricultural livelihoods support through the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Japan will further provide new assistance of about 32.8 million dollars for food assistance and to support internally displaced people and vulnerable women and girls through international organizations. All of this assistance will be disbursed by the middle of March.

From the mid-and-long-term perspectives, Japan will also continue to invest in people. We will continue to conduct JICA's human resource development training and the Government scholarship program, as well as Japanese-language programs for foreign-service officers and public officials.

Japan will make every effort to address the situation in Yemen as a member of the international community. Thank you.