

**Video statement by H.E. Mr. HONDA Taro,
Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
At the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian
Crisis in Yemen (March 16, 2022)**

I am HONDA Taro, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. I would like to thank the Government of Sweden, the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations for organizing this conference. We would also like to express our respect for UN and other humanitarian agencies which have been operating under the extremely difficult environment.

A long-standing conflict in Yemen has been causing “the world’s worst humanitarian crisis”. The international community must continue supporting the people of Yemen, who are facing imminent danger of famine and infectious diseases.

Japan, as a major donor country, will continue to contribute to improving the humanitarian situation in Yemen. In 2021, we pledged at least 49 million US dollars of assistance to Yemen in areas such as food, refugees and health, and we have disbursed all of them by the end of the year.

Under the principles of "human security" and in accordance with the "leaving no one behind" policy of the SDGs, Japan has already decided to provide at least 23 million US dollars in 2022. We hope that this assistance will contribute to the mitigation of the food crisis in Yemen, helping Yemeni children who will bear the future of the country.

In parallel to humanitarian assistance, Japan continues to provide development support, especially in the fields of education and health. Japan also continues its own support of "investing in people" and will resume capacity building assistance by JICA and Japanese Government Scholarship.

In order to end the humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen,

now is the time to build up the momentum towards the political solution and urge the parties to take constructive steps.

There is no military solution to the Yemeni conflict, but a political solution through dialogue among Yemeni people. From this perspective, the Government of Japan supports all the efforts by Mr. Hans Grundberg, Special Envoy of UN Secretary-General.

Taking this opportunity, Japan again calls on all parties for immediate ceasefire and early start of dialogue for political solution to the situation in Yemen. Japan strongly condemns the cross-border attacks by the Houthis, including attacks on Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates striking civilians and civilian infrastructure. These attacks must be stopped immediately, and impeding humanitarian efforts is unacceptable.

Japan remains committed to making both humanitarian and political efforts, in cooperation with countries concerned, to realize peace and stability in Yemen.

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