## Statement by H.E. Mr. HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan At the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen (February 27, 2023)

I would like to express my appreciation to the Government of Sweden, the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations for organizing this event. I would also like to take this opportunity to express our respect for the UN and other humanitarian agencies which have been operating under extremely difficult circumstances to deliver assistance to Yemen.

The protracted conflict in Yemen has been causing "the world's worst humanitarian crisis". Japan, as a major donor country, has provided a total of approximately 400 million US dollars of humanitarian assistance since 2015, in areas such as food, assistance for the displaced people, education and health.

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 approximately 19 million US dollars of additional humanitarian assistance in 2023. We hope that this assistance will contribute to alleviating the suffering of the Yemeni people.

However, providing humanitarian assistance alone is not sufficient to realize peace and stability in Yemen. It is also important to create an enabling environment for the Yemeni people to engage in economic activities.

To this end, we believe that our assistance for strengthening the functions of the Port of Aden should play an important role in the reconstruction of the economy.

We also believe that our capacity-building program for officials of the Government of Yemen can contribute to Yemen's economic recovery, which is essential for realizing a long-term peace. A military solution will not be able to resolve the Yemeni conflict. We believe that a political solution through dialogue is the only option. From this perspective, Japan reiterates our strong support for the efforts made by Mr. Hans Grundberg, Special Envoy of UN Secretary-General.

We also appreciate the Government of Yemen and the countries in the region, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman, for making concerted efforts to renew the truce among the parties to the conflict.

Taking this opportunity, Japan again calls on the parties concerned, especially the Houthis, to take necessary actions to renew the truce in Yemen, thereby paving the way for constructive talks towards realizing a durable peace.

In closing, let me assure you that as a member of the UN Security Council and the G7 presidency, Japan will continue providing necessary assistance and making diplomatic efforts in cooperation with countries concerned, to realize peace and stability in Yemen.

Japan always stands with Yemen. Thank you for your attention.

END