Statement by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs HOSAKA Yasushi at the HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 16 July 2024

Mr. President, Excellencies, distinguished participants,

Amidst complex crises and increasingly serious global issues, our efforts to ensure the sustainability of the international community, that includs the SDGs, are facing significant challenges. In this context, I would like to highlight three points that Japan prioritizes in working to achieve the SDGs.

Firstly, we need to recall the central promise of the SDGs: "Leave No One Behind", and develop solidarity that transcends differences in politics and ideology under the concept of human security based on human dignity. It is paramount to accelerate our efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and thereby open the way to a constructive future.

Secondly, I would like to emphasize the importance of collaborations with multi-stakeholders. In particular, let me draw your attention to the significance of the proactive involvement of youth, who are at the core of discussions regarding the 2030 Agenda and who will shape our future society. Japan is committed to inclusive initiatives with youth and other multi-stakeholders that transcend national, regional, and gender boundaries.

Thirdly, it is crucial to support low-income and vulnerable countries. Japan continues to work together with island and African states, notably through the 10th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM 10), which is now underway, and the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9) next year. Japan will promote transparent and fair development finance in accordance with international rules to achieve sustainable growth in developing countries. Private sector financing will also be mobilized to fill the gap of development funding.

Last but not least, I am pleased to announce that Japan will conduct a Voluntary National Review (VNR) next year to showcase our efforts in achieving both growth and sustainability.

Under the concept of human security, Japan will continue to play a leading role in advancing the comprehensive realization of the SDGs in the international community.

Thank you for your attention.