

Your Excellency Mr. Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa,

Your Excellency The Rt Hon Sir Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,

Mr. Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund,

Excellencies, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honor for me to participate in this important 8th Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund on behalf of the Government of Japan.

The idea of establishing the Global Fund was first discussed at G8 Summit in Okinawa, Japan in 2000.

Since 2002 to date, the Global Fund has played a leading role to tackle HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, through partnership with governments, civil society and the private sector.

The Government of Japan values contributions that have been made by the Global Fund, and Japan will continue to support its activities as its vital partner.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight Japan's basic policies concerning global health which is one of the pillars of Japan's diplomacy.

Needless to say, global health not only relates directly to the lives and health of people, but also constitutes a foundation for the economy, society, and security of the international community, including Japan.

In line with our vision of a Free and Open International Order based on the Rule of Law, Japan will continue to contribute to strengthening the Global Health Architecture (GHA), preventing, preparing for and responding to future pandemics.

Japan will continue to advance its work in Global Health, including on four key areas.

First, cooperation with the international community is vital for responding to infectious diseases.

We will support responses to the health issues and humanitarian crises, including support for vulnerable people.

Japan's commitment in the field of global health has been and will be consistent.

Second, Japan will strengthen support for the Global South countries so that they can sustainably address their own health challenges. As part of this effort, Japan will launch the UHC Knowledge Hub in Tokyo, during the UHC High Level Forum on December 6, this year.

This will provide capacity building for senior officials in finance and health sectors to advance universal health coverage (UHC).

Third, through supporting the discussions on WHO reform and on streamlining various multilateral support frameworks, among others, we will contribute to the strengthening and reform of the Global Health Architecture (GHA).

Fourth, by mobilizing resources from the private sector and also by utilizing our “Co-creation for common agenda initiative,” we will broaden the base of cooperation — including DX and digital health.

In this way we will promote the co-creation of innovative solutions to global health challenges.

At the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9) held this August, Japan announced the “Investment Promotion Package for Sustainable Health in Africa” representing a concrete application of Japan’s approach to global health in Africa.

I would like to reiterate that the Global Fund plays an important role in advancing Japan’s approach on global health which I have just illustrated.

The role of the Global Fund is important not only for tackling the threats posed by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, but also for strengthening health systems worldwide.

Japan's contribution to the Global Fund is vital to achieve UHC in order to realize “Human Security,” by protecting the lives and dignity of every individual and by realizing the vision of “leaving no one behind” toward the grand goal of the future of global health.

Japan stands ready to contribute at an appropriate scale to the Global Fund's 8th replenishment.

Japan will announce specific contribution to the Global Fund later as soon as possible.

What is clear, however, is Japan's unwavering determination to continue to support the Global Fund as one of our most trusted partners in global health.

Finally, I would like to conclude my statement by reaffirming our commitment to work closely with the Global Fund to sustain and strengthen global health efforts.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.