

Opening Remarks for the Focus Session:  
Promoting Better Triangular Co-operation:  
by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Seiji KIHARA  
08:00-09:15, Wednesday, 16 April 2014, Mexico City

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you. It is my great honor and privilege to greet you as a co-organizer of this focus session titled “Promoting Better Triangular Co-operation: Where Have We Got to Since Busan and Where to Next After 2015?” I would like to take this opportunity to convey my gratitude to our partners for arranging this focus session, namely, Colombia, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, OECD, and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC).

Today, the international community faces increasingly diverse global challenges. While poverty reduction remains a major challenge, other global issues, such as infectious diseases, climate change and natural disasters, have emerged as pressing concerns. These challenges cannot be solved without close cooperation among relevant stakeholders, such as emerging donors, the private sector and CSO. Thus, this Global Partnership to pursue inclusive partnership is, indeed, being held in a timely manner.

While Japan celebrates its 60th anniversary of providing ODA, triangular cooperation has been its imperative part for nearly 40 years as it maximizes the impact of development by adding the competitive advantages of partner countries. In the last 20 years, we have established cooperation frameworks with 12 countries, including Mexico and Brazil. Through such a framework, knowledge and experience both from Japan and our partners have been devoted to development of beneficiary countries. However, Japan’s effort does not end there. For example, Colombia and Japan have been providing assistance to other countries in the field of city planning and land management. With the Dominican Republic, Japan jointly provides assistance to Haiti in agriculture.

In 2012, through Japan’s triangular cooperation framework, 4000 trainees participated in training courses in developing countries and 150 experts from developing countries were dispatched to other developing countries. In

collaboration with the UNOSSC, Japan has conducted research on triangular cooperation.

This morning, we have distinguished representatives from both partner countries of triangular cooperation and their beneficiaries. I hope you will learn more on the benefits and challenges surrounding triangular cooperation through inputs from various perspectives.

Thank you for your attention.