

For more than fifty years, the United Nations has helped to prevent global conflict and to enhance the economic and social welfare of its Member States. At the dawn of the new millennium, however, conflicts and misery still exist.

Thus the role of the United Nations is even greater as our interdependence grows with the steady advancement of technology and information. Japan has, ever since its accession to the United Nations in 1956, attached great importance to UN activities and has made its commitment to the United Nations one of the main pillars of its foreign policy.

Japan intends to further enhance its cooperation with the United Nations and to play an even more active role for world peace and prosperity in the years ahead.

We hope that this pamphlet will allow as many readers as possible to have a better understanding of Japan's position on the main issues related to our role in the United Nations.

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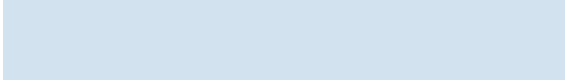
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The San Francisco conference was the stage for the signing ceremony marking the birth of the United Nations.



The Japanese flag was hoisted in front of the UN Headquarters when Japan was



Japan's Policy toward the United Nations in the Post-Cold

The world has undergone enormous structural changes in the aftermath of the Cold War as the international community strives to create a new framework for global peace and prosperity. On the political front, every effort is being made to find guarantees for peace and security. On the economic front, the international community is working to ensure and increase prosperity while addressing pressing issues such as those related to the environment and population. Creating a new framework to achieve these goals requires considerable effort. As the international community works toward finding solutions, it is vital to look toward the United Nations which is the only international organization with near universal representation. We should thus make efforts to strengthen the functions of the United Nations by implementing reforms in order to reflect the reality of today's world.

Since the end of World War II, the principle of assigning a central role to the United Nations has been a main pillar of Japan's foreign policy. In addition to its contributions to personnel and financial support for peacekeeping operations and other UN efforts to safeguard global peace and security, Japan is firmly committed to implementing reforms that will further strengthen the United Nations.



Foreign Minister
Yohei Kono and
UN Secretary-
General Kofi
Annan at the

I. Japan's Role in the Maintenance of International Conflict Prevention



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Conflict prevention was a major topic discussed at the G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

It is more cost-effective in various matters to nip conflicts in the bud before they occur, rather than respond to conflicts once they have erupted. From this viewpoint, recently the international community has increasingly come to recognize the importance of preventing conflicts in the stages before they erupt. Moreover, once a conflict does occur, it is necessary to stop it as quickly as possible, and the international community must take measures to prevent the recurrence of the conflict, and achieve a peace that can be sustained in the long-term.

Since the end of the Cold War, debate on conflict prevention became active after then-UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali issued a report entitled “An Agenda for Peace” in June 1992 in response to a request by the Security Council. According to “An Agenda for Peace,” the activities of the United Nations belong to four stages, in response to the stage of the conflict: “preventive diplomacy,” “peacemaking,” “peace-keeping,” and “post-conflict peace-building.” (Secretary-General Kofi Annan proposed to utilize “preventive action” instead of “preventive

diplomacy,” as such non-diplomatic activities as “preventive development,” “preventive disarmament,” “preventive humanitarian assistance,” and “preventive peace-building” are conducted with the goal of preventing conflict.) As matters stand now, the concern of conflict prevention has no established definition, and the scope of its objectives is also not clearly prescribed. Still, at present, the United Nations is pursuing efforts at each of the four different stages of conflict prevention, that of “preventive action” before conflicts erupt, “peacemaking” to

end conflicts once they have started, and “peace-keeping” and “post-conflict peace-building” once a cease-fire and peace accord have been established.

- Examples of conflict prevention by the United Nations:
- Preventive action
 - Development of the UN Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP)
 - Comprehensive dialogue on the East Timorese at the UN Secretary-General’s initiative
 - Peacemaking
 - West Sahara peace accord signed with UN mediation
 - Adjustment operations by the UN Special Mission in Afghanistan (UNSMIA)
 - Peace-keeping
 - UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
 - UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG)
 - UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)
 - UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET)
 - Post-conflict peace-building
 - Reconstruction assistance in Bosnia
 - Refugee repatriation / resettlement assistance in Rwanda

Hitherto in dealing with conflict prevention, Japan has believed that it is important to grasp overall the various causes in the background to the conflict’s occurrence, and moreover take into view efforts in a wide range of stages, from prior to the conflict’s eruption until after its conclu-

sion. As a method to pursue the above views, Japan has appealed to the international community on every occasion its belief in the importance of a “comprehensive approach” which makes efforts bearing in mind policies and measures in such fields as politics, security, the economy, society, and development. The importance of a “comprehensive approach” is gradually spreading in the international community, as seen from the emphasis on the importance of pursuing a “comprehensive approach” at the G8 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Miyazaki in July 2000. Japan intends to continue to further promote similar views.

Up to this point in time, Japan has cooperated for the prevention, settlement and recurrence prevention of numerous conflicts, and has participated actively in debates at the United Nations and the G8, among other forums. In particular, as President of the G8 for the year 2000, Japan cooperated with various countries and brought together debate concerning conflict prevention. In the “G8 Miyazaki Initiatives for Conflict Prevention,” the resulting product, the G8 took a common position for the first time on the high-priority fields of “Small Arms and Light Weapons,” “Conflict and Development,” “Illicit Trade in Diamonds,” “Children in Armed Conflict,” and “International Civil Police,” taking a first step towards making substantive efforts. From the point of view of cooperation for the prevention of the recurrence of conflicts, Japan has assisted in the reconstruction of Kosovo and its neighbors (Macedonia, Albania) and the

reconstruction of East Timor.

Furthermore, toward the activities of regional organizations involved in conflict prevention, Japan is contributing by assisting the strengthening of the Conflict Prevention Management Mechanism of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the dispatch of the OAU election observer mission to Nigeria. Japan is also considering assistance for the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS) (as of 2000).

Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-



Then-State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ichita Yamamoto delivering a speech at the

World War Two brought unimaginable suffering to people throughout the world. The United Nations was thus created “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,” as noted in the Preamble of its Charter. To maintain international peace and security, the United Nations has been acting extensively to promote disarmament and arms control. Japan has been one of the countries which has taken great interest in these issues. As the only country to have suffered from atomic bombings, Japan has been taking active initiatives for nuclear disarmament. With a view to realizing a world free of nuclear weapons, Japan is taking steady and pragmatic steps for nuclear disarmament.

Japan’s Approach to Nuclear Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Japan believes that it is necessary to take practical yet concrete steps to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world and recognizes the importance of pursuing a path toward nuclear arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation on which a large majority of countries in the international community agree. From this point

of view, Japan believes that the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is playing a fundamental role for global nuclear non-proliferation and the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. Japan further attaches importance to such concrete steps as the entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), the negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) process. Japan has been active in promoting nuclear arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation in

various fora of the United Nations, particularly in the UN General Assembly. Since 1994, Japan has been submitting a draft resolution on nuclear disarmament to the General Assembly every year, which has constantly been adopted with overwhelming support.

2000 NPT Review Conference

The most recent NPT Review Conference, which is convened once every five years to review the operation of the Treaty, was held at the UN headquarters from 24 April to 19 May 2000. It was the first Review Conference since the Treaty was indefinitely extended at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, and it was held at a time when the environment surrounding nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation had been extremely severe since the late 1990s. Overcoming several crises of rupture, the Conference adopted a final document by consensus, which included steps for nuclear disarmament in the future. The achievement of the Conference was brought about by the strong will of all participating countries to make the final agreement possible.

With the strong recognition that the failure of the Conference should not be allowed, from an early stage in the preparation period Japan actively engaged in consultations with the governments of the nuclear-weapon states, of the Non-Alignment Movement states and others,

as well as with Ambassador Abudallah Baali, President of the Conference, stressing the necessity of the success of the Conference. Furthermore, Japan's eight-item proposal on future measures paved the way for the adoption of the final document of the Conference by consensus.

Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament

In response to the nuclear testing in South Asia in May 1998, the Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, a track 2 forum, was established under the initiative of the Government of Japan to maintain and strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime. The Forum met four times and issued a report in July 1999 containing recommendations for the future course of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. The report was subsequently submitted to the UN Secretary-General and distributed to Member States as a UN document.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

After two and a half years of intensive negotiations on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) at the Conference on Disarmament and the subsequent failure of its adoption, the Treaty was adopted instead by the UN General Assembly on 10 September 1996 (by a vote of 158 for, 3 against and 5

abstentions) and opened for signature. After almost four years since then, however, the CTBT has not yet entered into force, for which ratification by the 44 countries specifically named in the Treaty is required. Pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, the UN Secretary-General, the depositary of the Treaty, convened the Conference on facilitating the entry-into-force of the CTBT in October 1999. Then-Foreign Minister Masahiko Koumura of Japan chaired the Conference and led it successfully to issue a strong political message for an early entry-into-force. To follow-up with the Conference, Japan has been taking initiatives to urge early ratification by non-ratifiers through the dispatch of high-level missions.

Japan is also contributing to the establishment of the International Monitoring System to verify compliance to the Treaty by Party states in various ways. Japan, for instance, has been organizing an introductory program for human resources development in seismology in developing countries and providing them with seismological monitoring equipment.

Cooperation for the Dismantlement of Nuclear Weapons

With weapons of mass destruction being reduced through, for example, the START process, the following tasks are taking on growing importance in terms of promoting nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation: the dismantlement of nuclear weapons, the management and

disposal of resultant fissile materials extracted from dismantled nuclear weapons, and the prevention of fissile material smuggling and outflow of scientists who were involved in the development of weapons of mass destruction during the Cold War era.

In these areas, Japan has been assisting with the dismantlement of nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union. Japan, for instance, is providing assistance to Russia with regard to the dismantlement of decommissioned Russian nuclear submarines in the Far East and the management and disposition of Russian surplus weapons-grade plutonium. At the G8 Cologne summit in June 1999, then-Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi announced the extension of financial assistance totaling US\$ 200 million for the dismantlement of nuclear weapons of the former Soviet Union.

UN Register of Conventional Arms

The unchecked transfer and excessive accumulation of conventional weapons also act as destabilizing factors in many regions of the world. In civil wars witnessed in various regions of Africa and elsewhere, for example, this has resulted in the escalation of combat and an enormous loss of life.

As a result of an initiative by Japan and the then-European Community (EC) member states, the UN Register of Conventional Arms was launched in

January 1992 in order to improve the transparency and openness of arms transfers. This measure has become increasingly important in building confidence at the global level. It requires nations to register with the United Nations their volumes of annual exports and imports in seven categories of equipment, namely battle tanks, armored combat vehicles, large-caliber artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, and missiles/mis-
sile launchers.

Japan has played a major role in ensuring the smooth operation of this Register. The Government of Japan, for instance, has sponsored workshops on the UN Register of Conventional Arms to strengthen and further develop the Register in 1992, 1994, 1997, and 2000.

Small Arms

Although the likelihood of large-scale international armed conflicts in the current post-Cold War world seems to be receding, smaller ethnic confrontations and civil wars have become more common, and the huge number of small arms and light weapons used in them (e.g. assault rifles, pistols, and, submachine guns) constitute a new threat to peace. The transfer, especially by illicit trafficking, of small arms and light weapons is increasingly frequent. Moreover, even in regions where conflicts have ended, the easy availability of such weapons hampers social, economic, and political restoration.

Japan has been playing a leading role in

global efforts to address the issue of small arms, and its contributions have been highly regarded in the international community. Japan proposed a resolution on small arms to the UN General Assembly in 1995, 1997, 1998, and 1999, which was adopted by an overwhelming majority every time.

The UN panel of 16 governmental experts, established in 1996 pursuant to the 1995 UN General Assembly resolution sponsored by Japan and chaired by Ambassador Mitsuru Donowaki, a Japanese member of the panel, prepared a comprehensive report by the Secretary-General on how to tackle the problem with a list of 24 concrete recommendations. The 1997 UN General Assembly resolution endorsed these recommendations, and decided to establish a new group of governmental experts to review progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the report and to recommend further actions to be taken. The new group, chaired by Ambassador Mitsuru Donowaki once again, recommended 27 specific measures in the Secretary-General's report submitted to the UN General Assembly in 1999.

The UN General Assembly resolution Japan proposed in 1999 decided to convene the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects in 2001. Japan is determined to endeavor its utmost for the success of the Conference.

Japan has also provided substantial financial assistance for post-conflict weapons collection and economic recov-

ery. Japan's total financial assistance in the related areas has amounted to about US\$ 3.6 million in the 1996-2000 period.

Anti-Personnel Landmines

The international community has been aware from the beginning of the 1990s that anti-personnel landmines planted during armed conflicts were causing serious casualties among civilians, as witnessed in Cambodia and Afghanistan. With international opinion leaning increasingly toward a total ban on anti-personnel landmines, swift progress was made in the process of drafting a treaty, and the Ottawa Convention was adopted in September 1997, banning the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of anti-personnel landmines and making their destruction obligatory. On 1 March 1999, the treaty entered into force.

Having concluded the Ottawa Convention in September 1998, Japan has been actively making efforts to ensure the universality and effectiveness of the treaty by making approaches to states not yet party to the Convention. Japan is also working with concerned countries toward the early initiation of negotiations for a treaty banning the transfer of anti-personnel landmines, which could well garner the participation of countries unlikely to conclude the Ottawa Treaty in the near future.

Victim Assistance

Japan held the Tokyo Conference on Anti-Personnel Landmines in March 1997, which was the first comprehensive meeting to examine steps to strengthen international measures dealing with the humanitarian aspect of this issue, namely demining and victim assistance. At this conference Japan drafted the Tokyo Guidelines, which aims at a goal of "Zero Victims," partly by strengthening the role of the UN as a focal point for more effective coordination of assistance for demining activities, etc.

In order to put the Tokyo Guidelines into practice, Japan introduced the "Zero Victims Programme" at the signing conference in Ottawa, and announced it would provide about 10 billion yen in assistance through its ODA programmes over a five-year period beginning in 1998. Japan also decided to support a conference to be held by Cambodia in October 1998 for mine-infested countries to share their experiences.

In this regard, Japan has decided, under certain conditions, to waive the restrictions it usually applies on arms exports, namely the "three principles on arms exports," and its collateral policy guideline in order to export materials necessary for humanitarian demining activities, as part of its material support for strengthening efforts on the anti-personnel landmine issue.

UN Conference on Disarmament Issues in

History of Nuclear Disarmament

1963	Oct.	Entry into force of Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT)
1969		Commencement of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT)
1970	Mar.	Entry into force of Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)
1972		Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty
1972-75	May.	SALT interim agreement
1975		First NPT Review Conference
1979		SALT (not put into effect)
1980	Aug.-Sep.	Second NPT Review Conference
1985		Third NPT Review Conference
1988		Entry into force of Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) agreement
1990	Aug.-Sep.	Fourth NPT Review Conference
1991		Signing of START
1992	May.	Signing of START Protocol (Lisbon Protocol)
1993	Jan.	Signing of START
1994	Jan.	Commencement of talks on Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)
1995	Apr.-May.	NPT Review and Extension Conference and the decision on indefinite extension of NPT
1997	Sep.	Signing of START Protocol
1999	Oct.	Conference on Facilitating Entry-into-Force of the CTBT
2000	Apr.-May	2000 NPT Review Conference

Japan

In his speech at the third UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament, held in 1988, then-Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita expressed Japan’s willingness to host a UN conference regarding disarmament matters, and accordingly, the UN Conference on Disarmament Issues has been held in Japan every year since 1989.

Participants have included senior government officials as well as non-governmental experts and other representatives from Japan and abroad. There have been spirited discussions at each conference,

which are expected to provide a stimulus to deliberations on arms control and disarmament at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and at the United Nations.

UN Peacekeeping Operations



Welcome Ceremony at Zionani Base

As of 30 June 2000, 86 countries are taking part in UN peacekeeping operations, with a total personnel level of approximately 36,500. In accordance with the International Peace Cooperation Law, Japan has cooperated in peacekeeping operations in Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, El Salvador, the Golan Heights and East Timor; in international humanitarian relief operations for Rwandan refugees and East Timorese displaced persons; and in international election monitoring activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Japan Joins UN Peacekeeping Operations

Japan, as a responsible member of the international community, has been strenuously working for the maintenance of peace and security. Accordingly, participation in UN peacekeeping operations is today placed as one of Japan's important areas of cooperation for international peace and security.

Japan's first substantial participation in a UN peacekeeping operation was in 1989, when 27 electoral observers were dispatched to the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia. Then in 1992, the enactment of the

International Peace Cooperation Law enabled Japan to send not only its civilian personnel but also its Self-Defense Forces personnel to UN peacekeeping operations. Based on that law, Japan participated in peacekeeping operations in Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, El Salvador and East Timor, and since 1996 has been dispatching a Self-Defense Forces contingent to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), which is deployed on the Golan Heights. Japan's Self-Defense Forces personnel were also sent to assist Rwandan refugees and East Timorese displaced persons as part of international humanitarian relief operations. Japan also cooperated in internation-

United Nations Agency Verification Mission II (UNAVEM II)	Area of Contribution	Duration	Number of Personnel	Primary Activities
	Electoral Observers	September to October 1992	3 persons	• Monitoring to ensure fair conduct of presidential and legislative elections
United Nations Transition Assistance in Cambodia (UNTAC)	Military Observers	September 1992 to September 1993	8 persons on bi-occasions	• Monitoring the storage of collected weapons and cease-fire observance
	Civilian Police	October 1992 to July 1993	75 persons	• Advising and supervising police administration work
	Troops (Engineering Units)	September 1992 to September 1993	400 persons on bi-occasions	• Construction of roads, bridges, etc.; supply of fuel and water to UNTAC division
	Electoral Observers	May to June 1993	41 persons	• Monitoring to ensure fair conduct and management of elections for the Constituent Assembly
United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ)	Staff Officers	May 1993 to January 1995	5 persons on bi-occasions	• Performing operations planning at ONUCMZ headquarters and coordinating transportation
	Troops (Movement Control Units)	May 1993 to January 1995	48 persons on three occasions	• Technical coordination and allocation of transportation
	Electoral Observers	October to November 1994	15 persons	• Monitoring to ensure fair conduct of presidential and legislative elections
United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL)	Electoral Observers	March to April 1994	15 persons on bi-occasions	• Monitoring to ensure fair conduct of presidential and legislative elections
	Troops (Refugee Relief Units)	September to December 1994	283 persons	• Humanitarian assistance in such domains as medical services, sanitation, water purification
Humanitarian Relief Operations for Bosnian Refugees	Troops (Military Units)	September to December 1994	118 persons	• Transport of supplies and personnel for the refugee relief unit and others
	Liaison and Coordination Personnel	September to December 1994	about 10 persons on several occasions	• Liaison and coordination activities with UNHCR and related organizations

	Area of Contribution	Duration	Number of Personnel	Primary Activities
United Nations Dimensional Observer Force (UNDOF)	Staff Officers	February 1996 to the present	2 persons on bi-occasions	• Public relations of UNDOF headquarters; planning and coordination of transport and maintenance work
	Troops (Transport Units)	February 1996 to the present	40 persons on ten occasions	• Transport of food, storage of supplies in storage areas, road repair, and maintenance of heavy equipment, etc.
	Liaison and Coordination Personnel	February 1996 to the present	4 to 6 persons on several occasions	• Liaison and coordination activities for the Self-Defense Forces unit and staff officers with related organizations
	Polling Supervisors	September 1998	25 persons	• Confering with and advising the Chairperson of each polling station; verifications of procedural instructions
International Election Monitoring Activity in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Electoral Observers	September 1998	5 persons	• Monitoring to ensure fair conduct and management of presidential elections, etc. in Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Liaison and Coordination Personnel	August to September 1998	4 persons	• Liaison and coordination activities for the supervisors and observers from Japan with the OSCE and related organizations
	Civilian Police	July to September 1999	3 persons	• Advising the Bosnian police in discharging their duties
	Liaison and Coordination Personnel	July to September 1999	3 persons on several occasions	• Liaison and coordination activities for the election police officers from Japan with the Bosnian Government and related organizations
Humanitarian Relief Operation for East Timorese Displaced Persons	Troops (Military Units)	November 1999 to February 2000	113 persons	• Transport of UNHCR humanitarian relief items
	Liaison and Coordination Personnel	November 1999 to February 2000	6 persons on several occasions	• Liaison and coordination activities with UNHCR and related organizations
International Election Monitoring Activity in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Polling Supervisors	March to April 2000	11 persons	• Supervision of several polling stations during the municipal election
	Liaison and Coordination Personnel	March to April 2000	6 persons	• Liaison and coordination activities for the supervisors from Japan with the OSCE and related organizations

MB 1: The Mission in which Self-Defense Force contingents provided transport and/or other support operations in Cambodia.
MB 2: The Self-Defense Force contingents provided transport and/or other support operations in Mozambique and in Cambodia.

al election monitoring activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which were conducted by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 1998 and 2000.

To date, Japan has also made contributions in kind. For example, Japan provided refugee relief materials such as tents and blankets to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) working for Kosovar refugees and East Timorese displaced persons in 1999. In the same year, Japan also provided the United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) with radios for public information purposes in support of the direct ballot in August 1999.

In addition to these field activities, Japan takes an active part in discussions in the United Nations to improve the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations. Japan, for example, has been serving as vice-chair for the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, the principal UN forum undertaking a comprehensive review of the questions related to peacekeeping operations.

With regard to the issue of the safety of peacekeepers, Japan strongly maintained that necessary measures should be taken for significant improvement, and Japan's initiative resulted in the adoption in 1994 of the "Convention on the Safety of UN and Associated Personnel," which Japan was the second to ratify. Japan has been actively urging other countries which have not yet done so to become a party to the convention.

Japan will continue to cooperate with

UN peacekeeping activities not only by participating in actual operations but also by actively engaging in discussions for further improvement of these operations.

II. Japan's Role in the Area of Economic, Social, and Development



UNHCR
Sadako Ogata
and other
panelists at
the
International
Symposium
on Human

Since the end of the Cold War, the Government of Japan has been deeply interested in how international society can manage development issues in a world freed from East-West confrontation. Now, at the dawn of the 21st century, Japan's basic concept is that, in the overwhelming wave of globalization, center to the matter is securing the livelihood and dignity of individuals against a wide range of border-crossing threats to the human beings.

A New Development Strategy

During the Cold War, the structure of international debate on development was consigned to East-West dualism, and, accordingly, the North-South dispute was in a sense a variation of the Iron Curtain confrontation. Japan has advocated that the end of the Cold War is a precious opportunity for the world to enter the era of genuine discussion on development, freed from the Cold War system. This is the reason why Japan proposed a

"New Development Strategy," consisting of the following major elements.

First comes a "New Global Partnership" coupled with the principle of "ownership." Japan believes that what is indispensable is the self-motivated approach by developing countries themselves, and then an international circle which assists them when necessary. Second is a "comprehensive approach" and "individual approach." Official development assistance (ODA) should continue to be an important element in addressing individual development issues. However, it is

necessary now to formulate multifaceted development policies that employ a range of tools. In addition to ODA, which enable the designation of specific aid policy packages in accordance with respective needs for assistance, these include trade, private investment, and the transfer of technology.

A big step toward implementing the “New Development Strategy in Africa” was the Tokyo International Conference on African Development II (TICAD II). TICAD II took place in October 1998, with participation by a number of high-level leaders from African, Asian, and donor countries and international organizations including the United Nations. The Conference adopted the “Tokyo Agenda for Action” for 21st century African Development, which contains concrete objectives and priority policy tools in three fields: social development, economic development and premises for development such as good governance and conflict prevention.

For the 21st Century -
Human Security in
Globalization

With goods, capital, technology and information now moving more freely, globalization has been proceeding with enormous momentum. At the same time, issues such as environmental degradation, terrorism, violations of human rights, transnational organized crimes, illicit drug trafficking, refugees, anti-personnel landmines, poverty and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS are

becoming more severe, moving across borders to directly threaten human survival, livelihood and dignity.

Under these circumstances, it has become more and more crucial to enhance the freedom of individuals and their abundant potential to live creative and valuable lives. This is the perspective of “human security.” With a focus on “human security” Japan considers it essential to protect individual human beings from the aforementioned threats and build the capacity of people to cope with such menaces.

Another aspect of “human security” is the perception that it requires close partnership between governments and other actors to support individuals effectively against diversifying threats. While national safety and prosperity are indispensable, international organizations and civil society are also expected to make efforts to defend individuals from a variety of threats together with governments.

Japan's Initiative

In his policy speech “Toward the Creation of A Bright Future for Asia” at Hanoi in December 1998 by then-Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, the Government of Japan clearly positioned “human security” in Japan’s foreign policy: Obuchi noted Japan’s emphasis on human security as one of Japan’s efforts to realize a 21st century of peace and prosperity built on human dignity. These remarks partly originate from the experience of the 1997 Asian economic crisis, where the poorest

and weakest in Asia were most severely hit by turbulence in global financial factors. That was the background of Obuchi’s speech: in the era of globalization, new cross-border threats directly damage vulnerable individuals.

After Obuchi’s statement, Japan has taken some concrete measures to realize the “human security” perspective in actual development issues. It founded a “Human Security Fund” at the UN Secretariat to help international organizations carry out such projects that directly benefit individuals. Japan has also hosted international symposia on human security. In June 1999, one named “Development: With a Special Focus on Human Security” was convened in Tokyo, raising issues such as poverty eradication, health and medical care and African development. The second symposium was convened in July 2000, aiming to bridge the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit and the UN Millennium Summit in order to address the challenges of the 21st century. Particular attention was paid to humanitarian affairs, infectious diseases, information technology and the environment at the symposium, where the significance of the human security perspective was reconfirmed.

Global Environmental Issues and Drugs



The Kyoto Conference on Climate Change (COP 3) was held in Japan, in

The 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment brought global environmental problems to the attention of the world. The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) duly adopted the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21. In June 1997, a Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Environment and Development (UNGASS) adopted the Further Implementation of Agenda 21. Recognizing the global environment issue as one of the top priorities in its foreign policy, Japan is actively tackling global environmental issues through both multilateral conferences and bilateral environmental policy consultations.

Japan's Basic Understanding of Global Environmental Issues

Japan has made global environmental issues a top priority in its foreign policy. Japan is contributing to this area by making the best use of its extensive experience and up-to-date technology. Environmental issues are inextricably linked with economic and social development. It is sometimes said that developing countries are pursuing development rather than protection of the environment. Developing countries sometimes argue that the root cause of environmental problems lies in the economic activities of

developed countries. These countries sometimes insist that developed countries should take the responsibility of providing financial aid and making technology transfers to developing countries. For this reason, in order to take coordinated action to address environmental problems, diplomatic efforts, in addition to scientific and technical solutions, are needed to rectify differences in awareness and conflicts of interest between countries at different stages of development and with different economic situations. Japan is, therefore, making great efforts to obtain the understanding of developing countries with regard to the necessity for environmental protection

and to encourage requests for environmental assistance projects. Based on the understanding that environmental matters are vital issues with regard to global human security, Japan has been actively engaging in various efforts and discussions. At the June 1997 UNGASS, Japan announced the "Initiatives for Sustainable Development Toward the 21st Century (ISD)," which embodies Japan's environmental Official Development Assistance (ODA) and other cooperation policies. Furthermore, Japan announced the "Kyoto Initiative" in December 1997 to support developing countries' efforts to counter global warming under the ISD.

Japan's Approach to Global Environmental Issues

Strengthening an International Legal Framework
Japan has strengthened its commitment to an international legal framework. Since the 1992 UNCED, Japan has actively participated in the process of formulating treaties, which has so far led to the conclusion of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. In April 1998, Japan signed the Kyoto Protocol, adopted in December 1997 at the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 3). Even before the 1992 UNCED, Japan had concluded several conventions: the

Convention and Protocol for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, among others.

Enhancing Environmental ODA
Japan began to bolster its environmental cooperation in the early nineties. Environmental cooperation today follows the ISD announced in June 1997 at the UNGASS, which embodies Japan's environmental ODA policy and sets forth action plans in five areas: (1) combating air and water pollution; (2) combating global warming; (3) dealing with fresh water problems; (4) nature conservation and forests; and (5) promoting public awareness. During the COP3 held in Kyoto in December 1997, the Kyoto Initiative on aid for global warming programs in developing countries was announced by Japan. This initiative aims at assisting developing countries in taking steps during the development process to deal with the global warming issue, which threatens sustainable development on a worldwide scale. Under the initiative, Japan provides active support for global warming programs in addition to traditional environmental programs.

Contribution through the Global Environment Facility
Japan has channeled funding to the

Global Environment Facility (GEF), a principal international multilateral funding mechanism set up in 1991, with a view toward contributing to solutions to global environmental problems. The fund is directed toward four areas: climate change, biological diversity, international waters, and the ozone layer. Japan made a financial contribution of US\$ 84 million during the three-year pilot phase of the GEF starting in July 1991. Japan further contributed US\$ 415 million in the four-year period from July 1994 to June 1998, an amount equivalent to 20.5% of the GEF capital. Japan's contribution was second only to that made by the United States. In 1998, Japan pledged to contribute US\$ 412 million, which amounted to 20.0% of the GEF capital, in the four year period from July 1998 to June 2002. This amount is at about the same level as that contributed by the United States.

Human Resource Development through Environmental Centres

Furthermore, Japan has extended its assistance to developing countries through the transfer of environmentally sound technologies. Japan places great importance on improving the capacity of developing countries to respond appropriately to environmental problems. In 1992, upon Japan's invitation, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) set up an International Environment Technology Centre in Japan. Moreover, utilizing Japan's environmental ODA, the Japan-China Friendship Environmental Protection Centre in China, the Environmental

Management Centre in Indonesia, and the Environmental Research and Training Centre in Thailand, among others, were established. These centres aim at improving the capacity of governments to tackle local environmental problems.

Toward a More Environmentally Conscious Life-Style

Environmental problems are a matter of mind-set and life-style. Not just governments, but individuals also need to pay greater attention to the environment. One of the most important initiatives taken by the Government of Japan is the enactment of its environmental legislation. In November 1993, the Basic Environment Law was set up. This comprehensive law provides for full-scale measures to deal with environmental problems on a global scale. Furthermore, in December 1994, the Government of Japan adopted the Basic Environment Plan. Based on the Basic Environment Law, this action plan is expected to lead to a comprehensive environmental policy. At the local level, on the basis of the Basic Environment Law, a local initiative called "Local Agenda 21" is also being implemented.

All these actions are significant for changing mind-sets and life-styles at the national, regional, corporate, and individual levels and are thus highly important in fostering an international approach to global environmental problems.

Kyoto Conference on Global Warming

Japan has contributed to promote discussions about global warming with the aim to an early entry-into-force of the Kyoto Protocol, which was adopted at the Kyoto Conference, the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 3), hosted by Japan in December 1997. At COP 4, just a year after the Kyoto Conference, the "Buenos Aires Plan of Action" was agreed upon, which stipulates the preparatory work for taking decisions on major issues contained in the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol at COP 6. Japan has actively played an important role on making progress in deliberations, in order to reach a final agreement by implementing the Plan of Action.

Japan has carried out a wide range of programs not only to assist developing countries with mitigating greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency improvement, technology transfer and joint research, but also to support countries vulnerable to climate change in their adaptation through advancement of weather forecast systems and human resource development. For example, Japan has taken the above-mentioned "Kyoto Initiative." As another type of example, Japan offers a financial assistance scheme for projects designed to meet the diverse needs of developing countries, known as the "Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Projects (GGP)." This scheme supports projects proposed by various bodies such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and municipalities.

In addition to the above international contributions, the Government of Japan has promptly taken measures to combat global warming. In December 1997, the Government of Japan established the "Global Warming Prevention Headquarters," chaired by the Prime Minister, to direct planning and implementation of the concerted actions of all ministers and agencies. Since then, Japan has been taking various domestic actions such as the adoption of the "Guidelines of Measures to Prevent Global Warming," enforcement of the "Climate Change Law," amendment of the "Energy Efficiency Law" and voluntary initiatives by industries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with a view to address climate change.

Drugs

Today, drug abuse remains a critical problem, posing an increasingly severe challenge worldwide. A Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action were adopted at the 1990 UN General Assembly Special Session on Drug Abuse, which advocated enhanced international cooperation for the prevention of illegal traffic in narcotics. At a subsequent Special Meeting in 1993, Member States reaffirmed the high priority required to strengthen efforts to eradicate drugs and adopted a resolution aimed at fulfilling the Global Programme of Action. Another UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs was held in June 1998.

This Special Session adopted a Political Declaration and six working documents, which will become the core of a new international strategy to prevent drug abuse as we move toward the 21st century.

Based on these international efforts against the drug problem, Japan has been actively supporting the activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), which plays a central role in the fight against drug abuse. Japan has extended its assistance to the operationalization of the Action Plan on amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) in the Far East/Southeast Asian Region to deal with the illegal manufacture of ATS. Japan has also made a contribution to an ongoing project to develop alternative crops as a substitute to the opium poppy in Myanmar. Additionally, together with the UNDCP and the Government of Myanmar, Japan convened the Seminar on Alternative Development Programmes in April 1998. Japan, with the UNDCP, organized the Asia Pacific Training Seminar on Maritime Drug Law Enforcement in October 1997. In these ways, Japan has annually contributed millions of dollars to the UNDCP's projects since 1991.

In addition, Japan is a member of the Dublin Group, a forum for consultations among developed countries on drug issues, and it presided several times so far over the Southeast Asian and Pacific Regional Meeting, playing a leading role in combating drug problems.

Japan also contributes funds to and supports the activities of the Inter-American

Commission for Drug Abuse Control (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS).

In May 1998, Japan announced a Five-Year Strategy for the Prevention of Drug Abuse, which serves as a set of guidelines for medium-term measures against drug problems. As noted in the Five-Year Strategy for the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Japan is vigorously promoting every possible form of cooperation with other countries in combating this problem.

In February 1999, Japan held the Asian Drug Law Enforcement Conference, Tokyo 1999, inviting the heads of drug enforcement agencies from China, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as the Executive Director of UNDCP, to discuss regional cooperation among national enforcement agencies and with the UNDCP on combating the drug problem.

In January 2000, Japan held the Anti-Drug Conferences, Tokyo 2000, where about 130 people from 37 countries and areas discussed the measures against the drug problem and the communiqué that announced international, regional and domestic cooperation among drug-related international organizations was adopted.

As noted above, Japan is vigorously promoting every possible cooperation with other countries in combating this problem.

Human Rights



Then-Senior State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Shozo Azuma giving a keynote statement at the Asia-Pacific Symposium on

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that all human beings are born to be free and have rights to live with dignity. Many people in the world, however, are not able to enjoy these rights. The United Nations has thus engaged itself in activities to improve human rights situations. Japan has strongly supported UN activities in the human rights field, believing that all human rights are universal.

UN Activities on Human Rights

UN Activities

The promotion and protection of all human rights is among the main objectives of the United Nations. The United Nations has established organizations such as the Commission on Human Rights to deal with human rights, drafted various human rights instruments, encouraged states to conclude them, adopted resolutions requesting that states should improve their human rights situations, and organized a number of worldwide conferences. In June 1993, the World Conference on Human Rights adopted the Vienna Declaration and Programme of

Action, which has had a large impact on activities in the field of human rights. The post of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights was created in 1993, and Mary Robinson, a former President of Ireland, was appointed as the second High Commissioner in June 1997. She has been active in coordinating relevant UN activities and international cooperation since she assumed office. Japan firmly supports the High Commissioner's activities, including human rights field operations, advisory services, and technical assistance.

Japanese Cooperation

Japan has actively participated in the UN Commission on Human Rights as its

member since 1982. Japan has increased its contribution to the Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance, considering cooperation in legal systems building and awareness-raising in human rights as important to improve human rights situations. Japanese experts have also contributed to these activities, as members of the sub-commission and committee in the human rights field. Japan has also concluded a number of human rights instruments.

Partnership for Democratic Development (PDD)

Japan supports institution building in various fields, such as in the legislative, administrative, and electoral systems in order to foster democratic development and protect and promote human rights in developing countries. Japan announced at the G8 Lyon Summit in June 1996 an initiative for “Partnership for Democratic Development (PDD),” which seeks to strengthen cooperative activities in the human rights field and for democratization. This initiative is based on the understanding that there exist many countries which have the political will to promote democracy and human rights but lack the appropriate systems, institutions and human resources. As examples of multilateral cooperation, Japan has supported the activities of the Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the field of human rights. In the bilateral context, Japan will continue to make efforts in institutional building through dispatching and receiving official

experts, assisting democratic elections, and sending personnel for monitoring elections. Japan is also eager to cooperate directly with NGOs and the people of developing countries through such activities as supporting NGOs, inviting the press, and organizing symposia.

Social Issues

Women

The Special Session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century,” held in June 2000 at the UN headquarters in New York, appraised and assessed the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Beijing Platform for Action, five years after their adoption at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995. The Special Session also considered further actions and initiatives. Japan has been actively working for the advancement of women. At the Special Session, Japan introduced its domestic policies on the issue and presented a statement citing the importance of the empowerment of women, respect for the rights of women, and a strong political will and action based on partnership to realize gender equality.

Japan has been a member of the Commission on the Status of Women and a Japanese expert has participated in the Committee on the Elimination of All

Forms of Discrimination against Women. Japan has also been providing contributions to the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).

Children

In order to respect and protect the rights of all children in the world, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989, ten years after the International Year of the Child in 1979. In September 1990, the World Summit for Children was convened with the attendance of 71 Heads of States and Governments, and the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, along with a Plan of Action for its implementation was adopted. As of June 2000, the Convention on the Rights of Child has been ratified by 191 countries. This fact displays its distinguished universality among UN human rights instruments. Japan ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in April 1994 and submitted its initial report for this convention in May 1996.

In May 2000, two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict were adopted by the General Assembly. These Optional Protocols increase the protection of children from sexual exploitation and involvement in armed conflicts in order to further imple-

ment the rights of the child recognized in the Convention.

As a further contribution to the protection of the rights of the child, Japan will hold the Second World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in December 2001.

The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has implemented long-term development activities in the fields of health, sanitation, basic education and emergency assistance. Japan is a member of the Executive Board, and has been making contributions both from the government (7.44% of total donations as of 1998) and from the private sector.

Social Development

Social problems such as poverty, unemployment, and social exclusion of vulnerable people were taken up comprehensively for the first time at the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen, Denmark in March 1995, in conformity with a General Assembly resolution of the United Nations.

A Special Session of the General Assembly entitled the “World Summit for Social Development and beyond,” held in Geneva in June 2000, convened to appraise and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Program of Action. The Special Session considered future actions and initiatives. Japan presented a statement citing the importance of eliminating poverty and achieving social integration and full employment for social development.

Transnational Organized Crime

Globalization has been accompanied by a dark side, or a dramatic increase in transnational organized crime such as illegal manufacturing of firearms, trafficking in persons, high-tech crime, and money laundering. Transnational organized crime, which can undermine the democratic and economic basis of societies, is a matter of serious concern and the international community should concert all its efforts in fighting against the threat. Japan, being aware that the enhancement of international cooperation and the establishment of a global legal framework are indispensable for success in our common fight, has been actively taking part in international efforts in a number of international fora, most importantly the United Nations and the G8.

In the UN framework, Japan has been an active member of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, one of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, a quinquennial high-level political congress most recently held in April 2000, which deals with problems related to transnational organized crime. In addition, Japan supports the activities of the United Nations Center for International Crime Prevention through financial contributions and dispatch of experts. Furthermore, Japan has been making its utmost effort in the negotia-

tions for legal instruments to fight against transnational organized crime, through active coordination among States concerned. Such legal instruments include, notably, the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the elaboration of which started in 1999.

Awareness-raising

Symposium on Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific Region

Japan has attached importance to the mutual understanding of human rights as a universal value in the Asia-Pacific Region. In January 1998, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the United Nations University co-sponsored the Third Symposium on Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific Region, which provided the opportunity for experts on human rights in this region to exchange their views. Japan expects the discussions on human rights to be deepened and developed by the symposium.

Japan's Financial Contribution

Contributions to the UN Funds on Human Rights

Japan's annual contribution to the UN Funds on human rights totaled about US\$ 1 million. In addition, Japan has contributed US\$ 700,000 and US\$ 111,000 to the Human Rights Field Operations in Rwanda (HRFOR) and in the former

Yugoslavia, respectively.

ODA

Guided by the belief that human rights are universal, Japan has expressed its concern for human rights violations, calling on countries of concern to improve their human rights situations. Japan pays full attention to the human rights situations and efforts for promoting democratization as proclaimed in the ODA Charter. When any improvement in human rights situations or any trace of democratization is recognized, Japan helps these changes through aid. On the contrary, when the situation is clearly accusable, Japan reviews its ODA projects to the country concerned.

Refugee Assistance



UNHCR Sadako Ogata visited Rwanda Refugee Camp in Zaire in

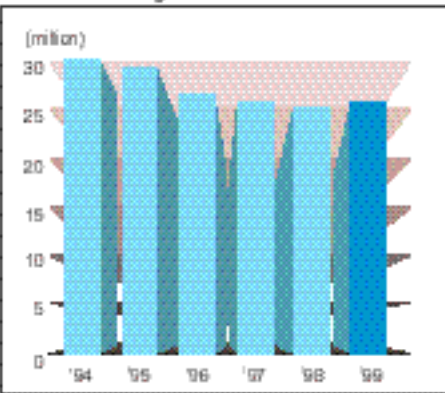
The refugee problem has not abated with the end of the Cold War. Japan has actively provided material and personnel assistance as well as financial contributions to solve the refugee problem.

The nature of the refugee problem

While the refugee problem is essentially a humanitarian concern, it also affects the peace and stability of the regions concerned and, eventually, of the world as a whole. Therefore, it is impera-

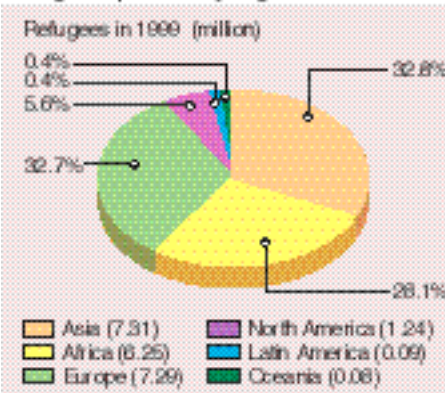
tive for the international community to take concerted action to address the refugee problem as a global issue by seeking political solutions to conflicts, providing international emergency aid and facilitating rehabilitation and reconstruction in order to encourage voluntary repatriation of refugees.

Worldwide Refugee Trends



Note: The number concerned to UNHCR

Refugee Population by Region



Note: The figures exclude Palestinian refugees but include displaced persons in the former Yugoslavia.

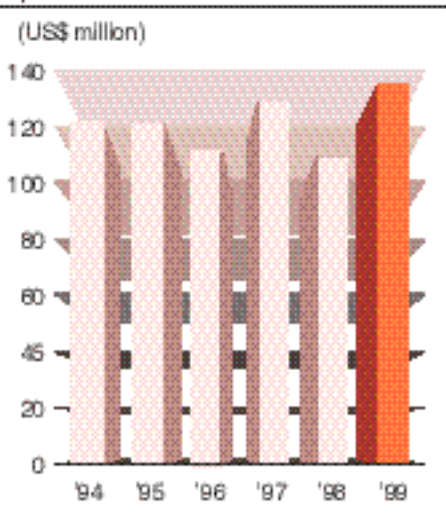
As a result of ethnic and religious conflicts that have surfaced in a number of regions since the end of the Cold War, the number of refugees soared in the 1990s, with the total refugee population reaching 30 million in 1995. After that, the number of the refugees has been whittled away by such developments as the wind-down of the Indochinese refugee problem and repatriation of a large number of Mozambican and Rwandan refugees, although it still reaches approximately 26 million as of December 1999.

Japan's Position on Refugee Assistance

From a humanitarian point of view, refugee assistance is a bounden duty of a member of the international community. It is also consistent with Japan's posi-

tion to seek permanent peace while cooperating with the international community and to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedom. Thus, Japan is undertaking refugee assistance, regarding it as one of the important pillars of Japan's contribution to world peace and prosperity. The Government of Japan has been actively making financial contributions through multilateral organizations, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Japan is the world's second largest donor country to UNHCR, UNRWA, and WFP. Furthermore, Japan has also made efforts to establish a legal and institutional framework for providing relief supplies and dispatching personnel for refugee assistance. For instance, Japan has actively been engaged in sending personnel abroad and extending cooperation in kind on the basis of the International Peace Cooperation Law which was enacted in 1992 and revised in June 1998. Under the revised law, cooperation in kind to international humanitarian relief activities is made possible even if a formal cease-fire has not been established as long as such activities are carried out by appropriate international organizations, such as UNHCR. In addition, Japan is strengthening its assistance to refugees in order to offer various forms of assistance to meet the diverse needs of

Japan's Financial Contribution to UNHCR



refugees in affected fields.

Japan's Field Assistance
to Refugees

In order to help to solve the refugee problem, the public and private sectors in Japan have provided material and personnel cooperation as well as financial contributions. In this regard, the government places particular emphasis on support for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

Support for NGOs

The Government of Japan is striving to bolster Japan's personnel cooperation by providing support for the overseas activities of Japan's NGOs. For instance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides a subsidy system for NGO projects and grant assistance for grass-roots projects. The Ministry also introduced in 1999 a new scheme of grant assistance for Japanese NGOs' emergency relief projects (the so-called "Direct Fund"). Another major scheme is the Postal Savings for International Voluntary Aid operated by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

Acceptance of Refugees
in Japan

Acceptance of Resettlement of
Indochinese refugees (Viet Nam,
Laos, Cambodia)

The Indochinese refugee problem emerged around 1975 as a result of

the collapse of the Saigon Government in South Viet Nam. As a main player on the Asian scene, Japan has accepted Indochinese refugees not only on humanitarian grounds but also from the point of view of contributing to the peace and stability of the Southeast Asian region.

From May 1975 to January 1994, Japan provided temporary asylum to 14,332 people, including 564 children born in Japan. From 1978 to April 2000, it granted resettlement in Japan to 10,592 refugees. To help these refugees adjust themselves to life in Japan, the Government offers Japanese-language training, guidance on social adaptation and customs, and employment introduction services. Such services are available at the International Refugee Assistance Center of Japan.

Recognition of Refugees

In line with its accession to the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, Japan amended its Immigration Control Order and changed its name to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act under the authority of the Ministry of Justice in 1981. Under the new law, which introduced a refugee recognition system, Japan abides by the obligations required by the convention.

Culture and Education



Ambassador
Koichiro
Matsuura,
Director-
General of
UNESCO,
presided at
the 22nd
Session of the
World

The promotion of educational, scientific, and cultural relations among nations is an important factor contributing to world peace and welfare. Japan is actively engaged in international cooperation in these areas, particularly through its participation in UNESCO activities.

Japan Contributes to
UNESCO Activities

One of the objectives of the United Nations is "to achieve international cooperation" for world peace and welfare common to humankind through "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion." To accomplish this objective, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), established with the mission of promoting educational, scientific, and cultural relations of the peoples of the world, conducts various activities in the fields of education, science and culture.

Following the end of the Cold War, regional conflicts continued to break out frequently throughout the world. As glob-

alization progresses, the importance of dialogue and the spirit of tolerance is being discussed. Under such circumstances, in November 1998 the 53rd UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to proclaim the year 2001 the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations. Further, in 1997 the 52nd UN General Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace. For projects to be undertaken in this context, UNESCO was designated as the main coordinating body. At present in Japan, educational and public relations activities for the Culture of Peace are being conducted under cooperation with UNESCO, and NGOs are collecting signatures for a "Manifesto 2000" campaign for the Culture of Peace.

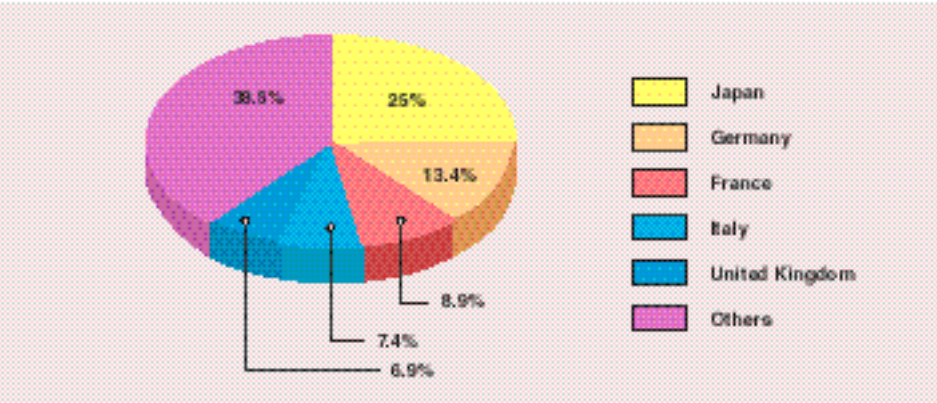
In the area of culture, UNESCO has long engaged itself actively in cooperation for

the preservation and protection of cultural heritage in the world, with the view to respecting cultural diversity and promoting coexistence among different cultures. Furthermore, in light of the importance of protecting cultural and natural heritage of universal value, UNESCO adopted the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1972. Japan accepted the Convention in 1992, and for six years from 1993 served as a member of the World Heritage Committee, hosting the 22nd session of the World Heritage Committee in Kyoto in December 1998. Also, through Japanese trust funds established within UNESCO, Japan conducts a variety of cooperative activities not only toward the preservation and restoration of tangible cultural heritage such as historic monuments throughout the world, but also toward the preservation and the promotion of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional arts and crafts.

In the field of education, UNESCO has

exerted efforts to promote “Education for All,” for example by serving as the secretariat and organizing the World Education Forum in April 2000 in cooperation with other international organizations. Japan has always cooperated actively with UNESCO in such areas as literacy education, the Asia and the Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development, education for international understanding in primary and secondary schools, preventive education projects against HIV/AIDS, environmental education, and higher education.

Assessments for the UNESCO Budget Financed by Major Contributors (2000)



(Left)
A Security Council meeting in



(Right)
A Security Council meeting in

Since the end of the Cold War, the world has been faced with new kinds of threats to its peace and stability. Regional and local conflicts based on deep-rooted historical, social, economic, ethnic and other factors, are rampant, threatening to plunge the world into even greater instability. Furthermore, the problems of an explosive population increase, poverty, and environmental degradation are affecting the entire planet. In this new international environment, the United Nations is expected to play an even more important role than before. In order for the United Nations to be able to fulfill its responsibilities effectively, it must undertake reforms in various aspects.

Reform of the Security Council

In the post-Cold War world, the international community has been placing even greater expectations on the United Nations and, in particular, on the Security Council, which has the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

However, in view of changing international conditions, as demonstrated, for example by the dramatic increase in the

number of UN Member States and the emergence of new powers which have attained levels of global influence equal to those of the current permanent members, the legitimacy and credibility of the Security Council cannot be ensured unless the Security Council is composed in such a way that it reflects the general will of the Member States. At the same time, the functions of the Security Council should be strengthened further. Thus, the objective of the United Nations' Open-Ended Working Group on the Question of

Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council, established in pursuance of the UN General Assembly resolution 48/26 of 3 December 1993, is to enhance the legitimacy and effectiveness of the Security Council, while maintaining its overall efficiency.

In the general debate of the UN General Assembly every year, a vast majority of speakers have referred to the question of the reform of the Security Council. This is clear evidence that this question remains of general concern to the international community.

Therefore, it is important that the Member States accelerate their deliberations and find a political solution acceptable to the majority of the Member States, in order to realize as early as possible the reform of the Security Council so that it can adapt itself to the new reality of today's world.

Japan believes that a reform of the

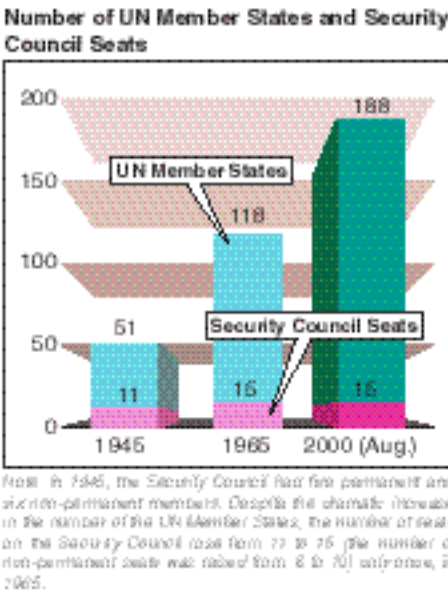
Number of Member States by Region and Security Council Seats

Region	Number of UN member states	Number of nonpermanent Security Council members	Number of permanent Security Council members
Asia	30	2	1 (China)
Africa	53	3	0
Latin America	20	2	0
Western Europe and other regions	26	1	3 (USA, UK, France)
Eastern Europe	23	1	1 (Russia)
Total	152	9	5

Note: There are 188 member states, but three — Estonia, Kiribati and Palau — are not currently members of any regional group.

Security Council should address the following points, with the aim of making it a more effective organ for carrying out its functions under the UN Charter:

- In addition to the five permanent members of the Security Council, new global powers having the capacity and willingness to assume global responsibilities have emerged. While recognizing that the current permanent members continue to be major players in global, political and economic matters, it is necessary to point out that there are now other countries that likewise play an important role in world affairs and now make significant contributions to the United Nations. Thus there is a need for a limited increase in the number of permanent seats. In this respect, Japan is of the view that the selection of the countries to be added should be



made based on the capacity and willingness of the countries concerned to assume global responsibilities. At the same time, Japan is giving due consideration to the view that developing countries should also be included as permanent members of the Security Council.

- Even though UN membership has now risen to 188 (as of August 2000) from 51 countries, the number of seats in the Security Council was increased only once, from 11 to 15, in 1965. Therefore, opportunities to participate in the work of the Security Council as non-permanent members have become inequitable among regional groups. Such regions as Asia, Africa and Latin America are now underrepresented. Thus, it is the view of Japan that the number of non-permanent seats should also be appropriately increased.
- While ameliorating regional representation, the enlargement of the Security Council should not undermine the effectiveness of the Security Council. In this context, Japan supports the proposal that the number of seats in the reformed Security Council should be 24.
- Japan is not in support of any proposal to enlarge only the non-permanent membership of the Security Council, since such a proposal does not address the main objective of Security Council reform: without new members permanently assuming global responsibilities and without regional representation augmented by new members, the func-

tion of the Security Council will not be structurally strengthened.

- Measures should be considered and implemented to further improve the working methods and procedures of the Security Council, including enhancement of the transparency of its work.

Since Japan joined the United Nations in 1956, cooperation with the United Nations has been a cornerstone of its foreign policy. Japan has the world's second largest economy, and based upon this national strength, it has the capacity to assume ever greater global responsibilities through various contributions to the efforts of the United Nations and particularly the Security Council. Furthermore, Japan is ready to take those greater responsibilities as a permanent member of the Council.

Japan's Contributions

- Cooperation in terms of personnel
Since 1992, when the International Peace Cooperation Law was enacted, Japan has dispatched Japan Self-Defense Forces' contingents, cease-fire observers, civilian police officers and other election observers to six UN peacekeeping operations, two humanitarian relief operations, and two international election monitoring activities. Japanese personnel are also actively engaged as political affairs officers in the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET), both of which were established in 1999.
- Financial cooperation

Providing approximately 20.6% of the United Nations budget, Japan is second only to the United States in its financial support of the Organization. Leaving out the United States, Japan's financial contributions exceed the combined contributions of the four remaining permanent members of the Security Council.

Moreover, Japan's contributions constituted most of the Trust Fund which enabled developing countries to participate in the multinational force that was dispatched to East Timor.

- Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Japan is committed to promoting international disarmament and non-proliferation while firmly maintaining its Three Non-Nuclear Principles - not possessing, not producing and not permitting the introduction of nuclear weapons into its territory. Since 1994, Japan has submitted

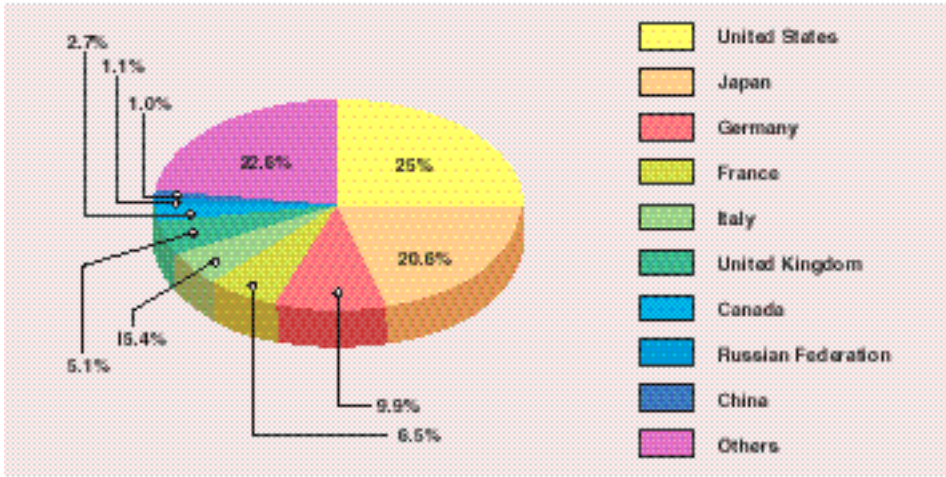
draft resolutions on nuclear disarmament at the UN General Assembly, which have been adopted with overwhelming support. Japan actively contributed to the success of the 2000 NPT Review Conference by presenting the eight-item proposal, and has been taking the initiative in facilitating the entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

Moreover, Japan has been playing a leading role in disarmament of conventional arms, including small arms and landmines. It has provided substantial financial assistance for this purpose, and in 2000 established the Small Arms Fund within the United Nations.

- Other

Japan has served as a non-permanent member of the Security Council for eight terms. During its 1992-93 term, for example, it actively contributed to the achievement of a peace agreement in Cambodia.

Assessments for the Regular Budget Financed by Major Contributors (2000)



During its most recent term in 1997-98, Japan helped shape the debate on various issues and regional situations, such as the sanctions against Iraq and the nuclear testing by India and Pakistan.

Financial Reform of the United Nations

Japan's Contributions to the UN Budget

UN activities are financed by assessed contributions from all Member States and by voluntary contributions. The UN budgets financed by assessed contributions are further divided into two categories: the regular budget and budgets for peacekeeping operations.

Since its accession to the United Nations in 1956, Japan has consistently honored its financial obligations by paying its assessed contributions in full. As for the regular budget, Japan's assessment amounts to US\$ 216 million for the year 2000. Japan's assessment rate is 20.573% for the same year, exceeded only by the 25% share assessed to the United States. As to the peacekeeping budget, Japan paid US\$ 242 million in 1999.

Financial Reform of the United Nations

The financial reform of the United Nations is one of the most serious issues that the Organization faces at present. Japan has actively engaged in discussions on UN financial reform, bearing three major questions in mind.

Firstly, the immediate issue of cash flow

shortage should be resolved as soon as possible. Arrearages to the United Nations owed by Member States totaled US\$ 1.76 billion at the end of 1999, an amount exceeding the UN regular budget for one year. It is important for Member States to fulfil their financial obligations under the Charter promptly. Second, based on the conceptual distinction between the short-term cash flow shortage and the systematic issue of financial reform, Japan has asserted that the UN budget itself needs to be more streamlined. As Member States are paying their assessed contributions under various economic and financial circumstances, the United Nations cannot avoid conducting its activities under limited availability of financial resources. Therefore it is essential for the United Nations to clarify and reappraise its priority issues and to move financial gravity onto such areas, and then to pursue rationality and efficacy in its expenses. Japan believes that more effective budgeting by the United Nations will win more confidence from Member States in its activities.

Another critical issue is how to achieve a fairer and more equitable distribution of the financial obligation borne by Member States. Japan believes that a sound financial basis of the United Nations should be backed by well-balanced financial burden-sharing among its members. For that purpose, scale of assessments should reflect the current "capacity to pay" of Member States as closely as possible. Japan also emphasizes that the status and responsibilities of Member States in the United Nations should be projected onto their

financial obligation.

Reform of UN
Development Activities

Activities by United Nations and its funds and programmes as well as some specialized agencies have been highly evaluated for their neutrality and universality. On the other hand, however, the wideness of UN development activities has sometimes caused duplication or ineffectiveness. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, after his inauguration in 1997, proposed the establishment of coordinating frameworks both at the headquarters and field level among related institutions within the UN system. Development is one of the areas of UN activities with the highest expectation from the world. Therefore it is crucial for the Organization to continue close partnership and exchange of views on each agency's priority area and then to enable the UN system as a whole to work towards the well-being of developing countries in a most effective and efficient manner.

For that purpose, Japan has been paying attention to the fact that it is indispensable for us to focus particularly on individuals to cope with rapidly diversifying and border-crossing threats. The essentiality is the aggregated involvement in development activities by state governments, international organizations and civil society — a global network of world bodies and grass-root expertise of NGOs, based on national safety and prosperity. Under this banner,

Japan established a “Human Security Fund” at the United Nations to support such projects. Japan’s contribution has amounted to US\$ 84 million since its foundation in March 1999. Japan sincerely hopes that the Fund will facilitate UN activities to benefit individual people in developing countries directly and concretely.

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