Japan attaches its importance to assistance for vulnerable groups such as women and children in humanitarian assistance, and it’s providing assistance in a public-private partnership by combining emergency assistance with medium- to long-term development cooperation.

In order to comprehensively and effectively promote the SDGs toward "No one is left behind ", the "SDGs Promotion Headquarters" has been established with the Prime Minister as the head and all Ministers of State participating. Through discussions at the SDGs Promotion Roundtable Meeting, which was established under this Headquarters, we are promoting initiatives to achieve the SDGs with the participation of all stakeholders.

The SDGs contain many goals and targets related to social protection. In the context of international cooperation, I would like to share some of Japan's undertakings in the relevant SDGs.

(Human Security)
Human security is a timely concept whose usefulness should be reviewed under the COVID-19 crisis. In February this year, UNDP released a special report on human security in a new era. Based on the recommendations of the report, Japan, which has been promoting human security as a pillar of its diplomacy for many years, will further disseminate human security and promote discussions on it at the United Nations through frameworks such as the Human Security Friends Group.

(SDG Goal 4 (Education))
Education under Goal 4 is an indispensable area for promoting human security and is the key to achieving all the goals of the SDGs. Japan attaches great importance to support in the field of education, and at last year's Global Education Summit, it pledged to contribute more than $1.5 billion to the education sector over the next five years. Given the serious impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on girls in a vulnerable situation, Japan, based on last year's G7 Declaration on Girls' Education, pledged at the Summit to support the education and human resource development of at least 7.5 million girls in developing countries through math education, provision of learning opportunities for children who have been deprived of school education, and the
acquisition of skills that will help them increase their incomes. We are steadily implementing those assistance.

(SDG Goal 5 (Gender))
Gender Equality under Goal 5 is also important. Japan supports women and girls affected by the COVID-19 in the Asia-Pacific region through UN Women. In Thailand and Bangladesh, we have provided entrepreneurship and livelihood support to women affected by the pandemic, and in Papua New Guinea, we supported the program to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 in rural markets where women sell agricultural products. In Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam, we provided guidance on the prevention of COVID-19 and distributed infection prevention supplies including PCR test kits. In addition, Japan provides life-saving and livelihood assistance to women and girls who had been subject to violence and IDPs in Afghanistan. And through JICA, Japan is providing support for women's economic empowerment through capacity building of national and local government agencies in Cambodia, and in Pakistan, assistance for improving the lives and livelihoods has been provided.

Mr. Chair, Japan makes utmost efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda with international community based on the concept of human security. Thank you for your attention.