<Points of intervention>

This Committee session is well prepared in terms of timely documentation. We believe this is because the Social Development Division respects the rules of procedure of intergovernmental meeting at ESCAP. We hope and request that other intergovernmental meetings at ESCAP learn and follow the preparation of this Committee session as a model.

>2030 Agenda

Both developing and developed countries need to pursue the achievement of the goals of the 2030 agenda given its universality. Japan has supported countries in Asia and the Pacific region and will continue to do so in areas including health, disaster risk reduction, women, education, and quality development. Japan will actively address these agendas, having in mind that social development issues are essential to achieve the principles “no one will not be left behind” of the SDGs.

>Sharing some policies in social development, focusing on women’s empowerment and disabilities matters

>Women’s empowerment

This is one of the most important policy agendas for the Government of Japan. We have been promoting this agenda through legislation and other measures, including mandating large private and public institutions to make an action plan with a voluntary target of employment and promotion of women from this April.

Japan hosted World Assembly for Women in the past two years and it will endeavor to hold the forum this year as well. We hope this forum will play an important role for women’s empowerment in this region.

>Disabilities

Japan has been supporting the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons for many years, more than 20 years, with ESCAP through JECF. It ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in early 2014. Japan has also supported and will continue to support persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific region through ODA as described in the meeting documents.