



Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

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Statement by Mr. Takashi Kanamori
First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

Agenda item 139: Human resources management

Fifth Committee
Sixty-sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly
17 October 2011

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My delegation would like at the outset to express its gratitude to Ms. Ruth de Miranda, Chief of the Human Resources Policy Service, Ms. Joan Elise Dubinsky, Director of the Ethics Office, Mr. Collen Kelapile, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), and Mr. Mounir M. Zahran, Chair of the Joint Inspection Unit, for introducing their reports.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation shares the concern expressed by the ACABQ that approximately 40 per cent of the posts subject to the system of geographic ranges are not encumbered by staff having geographic status. In particular, my delegation considers it problematic that 403 posts are temporarily filled by non-geographical and other staff. Staff should be selected and placed to the posts established under the regular budget through the established recruitment procedure under ST/AI/2010/3, with due regard to geographical diversity, rather than through temporary vacancy announcements. We strongly hope the ACABQ recommendation that the Secretary-General provide comprehensive information on measures taken to address the issue of the high number of geographical posts occupied by staff having no geographic status at the sixty-seventh session be endorsed by the General Assembly.

My delegation recalls in resolution 65/247 that the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, as a one-time exceptional measure until 31 December 2012, to make efforts to place in P-3 posts successful national competitive recruitment examination candidates who were on the roster as of 31 December 2009 and who show an interest in and are qualified for such positions. In this connection, Table 27 of the Secretary-General's report on the composition of the Secretariat (A/66/347) shows a somewhat disappointing result, wherein only 5 candidates were placed to P-3 positions from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. My delegation would like to see the Secretary-General's strong leadership to make the Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) and the Executive Offices of every Department or Office to work closely with each other and further expedite the placement of the remaining successful national competitive recruitment examination candidates either at P-2 or P-3 positions.

Lastly, my delegation would like to commend and welcome the tireless effort by the OHRM to engage in outreach activities in order to attract potential applicants from unrepresented or underrepresented Member States.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.