



Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

866 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017 Phone: (212) 223-4300 · www.un.int/japan/

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Statement by H.E. Ambassador Hiroshi Minami
Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

At the conclusion of the main part of the Seventieth Session of the Fifth Committee
Of the United Nations General Assembly
23 December 2015

Mr. Chairman,

I would first like to express my sincere appreciation to you for your leadership and guidance that led us to the successful conclusion of this session. I also thank the colleagues from the Secretariat who have worked tirelessly for the committee, without which we would never have achieved this result.

I recall that I stressed the need to finish this session before Christmas in my opening statement in October. I am pleased to come back to this room and speak before the committee on the day before Christmas Eve. For the Fifth Committee experts, it is the first time in three years to spend Christmas with their families and they really deserve it. Even though they faced a lot of challenges, they kept working together based on the mutual trust until they reached consensus. I hope this working spirit will continue in the years to come.

Mr. Chairman,

The committee has just adopted the resolutions on scales of assessment, regular budget, common system, construction issues and management reform initiatives, by consensus. Especially, on common system, this is the first reform in 25 years, and we are pleased with this outcome. On regular budget, we are also satisfied with the outcome of the negotiation, but we have slight concerns with the process of the estimated amount for the implementation of 2030 Agenda and AAAA. Next year we should have more structured process for the consideration of these items.

The committee provides fundamentals for the Organization's delivery of mandate. And this is why the sound management of the work of the Fifth Committee is imperative to the functioning of the United Nations. In this regard, I am pleased that the committee has successfully completed its work on time with win-win results.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I wish you, the bureau members, representatives of the Secretariat and dear colleagues, a Merry Christmas, which we collectively missed for the last two years. I hope to see you coming back with refreshed faces next year.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.