

**Statement by Mr. Wataru OTSUKA
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**At the Conclusion of the Main Part of the Seventy-Third Session
Of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly**

22 December 2018

Madame Chair,

At the conclusion of the session, my delegation would like to express our sincere appreciation to Madame Chair, her team, and all the bureau members for their leadership and guidance to conclude many items in a cooperative and a timely manner. My special thanks also go to members of the Secretariat for the tireless efforts for the committee, without which we could never have achieved these outcomes.

Madame Chair,

Your presence and consistent call to conclude items in a cooperative, consensual, and a timely manner during the final stretch of our negotiations had a visible and significant impact on the successful conclusion of the negotiations.

In this session, we had before us a number of complex agenda items, including those related to UN reforms, human resources management, special political missions, and constructions. In this connection, we express our disappointment that no decision could be made on the human resources management despite long and thorough deliberations on this item. Our delegation looks forward to the future negotiations on this matter.

Madame Chair,

One of the important outcomes in this session is the decision on the scales of assessments for the apportionment of the regular budget and PKO budget. While Member States varied on their positions for desirable outcomes on this matter, Japan highly welcomes that consensus was achieved on the scales of assessments for both regular budget and PKO budget. Here, Japan would like to renew its commitment to fulfilling its financial obligation in a faithful manner.

Madame Chair,

Going forward, the Committee must continue to review our working method of the Committee to conduct negotiations in a more efficient and effective manner.

Finally, Madame Chair, I wish you, the bureau members, representatives of the Secretariat and dear colleagues, a joyful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

I thank you Madame Chair.