



(Check against delivery)

**Statement by Ms. Rena AKATSUKA
Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations**

Agenda item 139: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the UN

**Main Part of the 74th Session of the Fifth Committee
Of the United Nations General Assembly
7 October 2019**

Mr. Chair,

I would first like to thank His Excellency Ambassador Bernardo Greiver, Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, for introducing the Committee's report, as well as Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of Programme Planning, Finance and Budget, for presenting the Secretary-General's report on the multi-year payment plans.

Mr. Chair,

As one of the major financial contributors to the United Nations, Japan attaches great importance to the scale of assessments. My delegation is firmly of the view that we should respect and maintain the basic principle that each Member State of the United Nations should pay its assessed contribution according to its capacity to pay.

At the same time, taking fully into account the changing global economy, we have to improve its methodology so that it better reflects each Member State's real capacity to pay in a more equitable manner, based on the most current, comprehensive and comparable data available.

Mr. Chair,

With regard to the application of Article 19 of the United Nations Charter, my delegation endorses the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions regarding exemptions to the Article's application, while encouraging those Member States under application of Article 19 to consider submitting multi-year payment plans.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.