

Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

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

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Statement by Mr. Daisuke Wakabayashi First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

Agenda Item 140: Human Resource Management

Main Part of the 74th Session of the Fifth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

13 November 2019

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to Ms. Elia Yi Armstrong, Director of the Ethics Office and Ms. Julia Maciel, Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for introducing their respective reports.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation believes that the greatest asset of the United Nations is its staff, and that improving its human resources management is essential for the effective and efficient operation of the Organization. In order to deliver on its mandate, the United Nations needs to acquire and retain staff with the highest standards of efficiency and competence.

At the same time, diversity is one of the defining features of the United Nations, and it enables the organization to tackle the wide range of issues that the UN is mandated to address. To achieve a more diversified organization, we would like to emphasize that the under-representation of some Member States in the Secretariat has been a long-standing challenge, although the General Assembly has repeatedly requested the Secretary-General to improve equitable geographical distribution within the Secretariat. As one of the under-represented countries, Japan requests the Secretary-General to more than redouble his efforts.

Mr. Chair,

We recognize various reports requesting actions to be taken by the General Assembly, some of which have been deferred from the previous main session, while others are to be introduced soon. My delegation stands ready to engage in the negotiation constructively in order to reach a consensus for better human resources management.

I thank you Mr. Chair.