Statement by the Representative of Japan at the Meeting of the Sixth Committee on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (Agenda Item 112)

Madam Chair,

First of all, I would like to join other colleagues in congratulating you on your election as the chair of the Sixth Committee. I assure you of our full support during this session. I also congratulate the other Bureau members on their appointments. Japan looks forward to working closely with you.

Madam Chair,

Despite the adoption of resolution A/RES/72/123 on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism by the General Assembly last December, a number of terrorist attacks have unfortunately continued to occur around the world. Japan reiterates its strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms as well as its deep commitment to countering terrorism.

As the threat we face now needs to be tackled by urgent and coordinated international efforts, Japan hopes to continue cooperating on effective counter-terrorism measures, therefore we have been providing human and financial resources to the relevant organizations including UNOCT (UN Office of Counter-Terrorism) and UN CTED (Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate).

Madam Chair,

The threat of terrorism has been evolving and spreading globally. The Global Counter Terrorism Strategy Review resolution this June, as well as the UN Security Council Resolution 2396 in December 2017, highlighted the importance of addressing the threat of FTFs (Foreign Terrorist Fighters), including returning and relocating FTFs. Japan has been implementing UNSCR 2396 and effectively using API (Advance Passenger Information) and PNR (Passenger Name Records) data to detect and discover FTFs and its networks. We will support UN efforts to promote and provide technical assistance and capacity building for API and PNR in other countries as well.

Madam Chair,

In addition to conventional counter-terrorism measures, we should strengthen efforts toward the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) which is conducive to terrorism. As PVE involves broad areas such as education, economic development, employment, counter-narratives, and engagement with youth and women, we need to collaborate with various actors, including international organizations, civil society, community leaders, NGOs, and ICT companies. Japan has been providing financial support to UN projects related to PVE projects especially in Asia through international organizations.

Madam Chair,

As a responsible member of the international community, Japan will continue to closely cooperate with the UN on counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism. We look forward to the continued leadership of the UN in this field.

I thank you.

-end