

Statement by the Delegation of Japan

(a) Agriculture

Thank you, Madam Chair,

Food security remains the top of global agenda. We must redouble our efforts in addressing this issue in a more coherent manner than ever.

At the Group of Eight Summit Meeting at Hokkaido Toyako, Japan, last July, the G8 leaders committed to working with the international community in forming the GPAFS, Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security.

Japan welcomes that the leaders gathered at the High Level Meeting of Food Security for All in Madrid in January have agreed to start the consultation process of the GPAFS.

Japan is driving forward with international partners a number of initiatives, spearheaded by the CARD, Coalition for African Rice Development. The CARD is a practical outgrowth of the ideas of the GPAFS, aiming for doubling rice production in Africa.

Madam Chair,

Production and use of Bio-fuels not only mitigate climate change but also revitalize agriculture contributing to the rural development. However, we have to ensure the compatibility of production of bio-fuels with food security, and accelerate development and commercialization of second-generation bio-fuels from non-food plants materials and inedible biomass.

Madam Chair,

Japan is the world's top provider of agricultural assistance. We will continue to put our priority on agriculture because we consider that sustainable agricultural development is critical for poverty alleviation and the realization of the concept of "human security."

Thank you Madam Chair,