**Agenda item 4 Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:**

**“(b)** **Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”**

**Statement by Mr.Jun Yanagi, Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan**

*Thank you, Mr.Chair,*

(Introduction)

Now just in the mid of the week of this session, I wish to start by expressing Japan's high appreciation to you, chair and the secretariat for conducting the session in an efficient and effective manner.

*Mr. Chair,*

(UNODC’s role and Japan’s contribution)

Just as the SG mentioned here on this Monday, UNODC has been playing crucial roles, both in peace/security and development. And in Japan's view, this is being achieved with its 3 distinctive assets; namely, its expertise in research and analysis activities, its capability of developing norms and standards, and its ability to implement them in the field. This year, Japan has provided to UNODC its largest contribution to date, more than 28 million US dollar, to support a wide range of technical assistance activities. Japan appreciates UNODC’s current engagements, and joins other Member States in expressing our common hope that UNODC further contributes to bringing real impacts on the ground.

*Mr. Chair,*

(Transparency of the finance and governance of the UNODC)

Our expectations for UNODC could not possibly be fulfilled unless an efficient, effective and transparent management of the activities is in place.

In this regard, firstly, Japan has been emphasizing the need to be realistic in developing the budget. Taking into account the shrinking GP[[1]](#footnote-1)(General Purpose Fund), the increasing SP[[2]](#footnote-2)(Special Purpose Fund) and the PSC (Program Support Cost) accordingly, the only way to maintain the level of the UNODC’s unique delivery activities on the fields is making full use of PSC. Therefore, Japan　welcomes the revised budget proposed by the Secretariat, which reflects our suggestions to allocate PSC in a more flexible manner. While respecting relevant UN guidelines, Japan further requests the Secretariat to continue their efforts in holding dialogues with Member States on where and how PSC should be allocated to the field activities.

Secondly, Japan also believes that a close coordination between the Headquarters and the field offices, and the synergy between them, are indispensable for the maximal output of UNODC’s activities. We hope that the Headquarters will duly coordinate with the field offices in order to avoid any duplication of projects and to promote efficient and effective management.

Thirdly, let me reiterate our appreciation for UNODC in its efforts towards realizing geographical balance and gender parity in its staff composition. Japan wishes to see further developments in this area, especially on the senior level, where the number of female staff is disproportionally low.

*Mr. Chair,*

(Closing)

Let me conclude by saying that Japan' together with other Member of states and ODC, will continue to follow the UN system wide discussion which are going on in NY and its possible implications and impact on management/governance and budgetary/administrative aspects.

Thank you.

1. GP: General Purpose Fund (一般目的拠出金) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. SP: Special Purpose Fund（特定目的拠出金） [↑](#footnote-ref-2)