**Agenda item 10: Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:**

**[Friday 18 May 10am-1pm]**

**Statement by H.E. Mitsuru Kitano, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Japan**

*Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,*

[Introduction]

I would like to begin by congratulating Your Excellency Ambassador Lotfi Bouchaara of Morocco for your election as Chair of the 27th session of the Commission. I would also like to express Japan’s appreciation to the efforts made by the Secretariat in the preparation of this session.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

[CCPCJ’s activities to implement SDGs]

Here, I would like to bring to your attention the multi-faceted relationship between the CCPCJ’s activities and our shared initiative to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

In our endeavor to fight against crime, the overarching social problems that underlie crime cannot be underestimated. To strive to eradicate crime, social problems have to be addressed. Herein lies the multi-faceted relationship between the CCPCJ’s activities and our endeavor to achieve SDGs.

We can categorize this multi-faceted relationship into three layers:

* On the first layer, the CCPCJ’s activities are directly connected to the achievement of one of the GOALs of the SDGs.
* On the second layer, the CCPCJ’s activities are connected to the achievement of one of the TARGETs of a particular goal of the SDGs.
* On the third layer, CCPCJ’s activities are indirectly connected to the achievement of a particular goal of the SDGs.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

[First layer]

On the first layer, the CCPCJ’s activities are directly contributing to Goal 16. This Goal aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and build accountable institutions. Here, the CCPCJ’s activities of rule of law, crime prevention, and anti-corruption efforts directly contribute to the achievement of this Goal.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

[Second layer]

On the second layer, the CCPCJ’s activities are connected to the achievement of one of the targets of a particular goal in several instances.

Target 2 of Goal 5, for example, aims to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls. This target can be achievable through our endeavor to address trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation of women and children.

This is also applicable to Target 14 of Goal 14, which addresses illegal fishing, as well as Target 7 of Goal 15, which relates to trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

[Third layer]

On the third layer, the CCPCJ’s activities are indirectly related to the achievement of a particular goal of the SDGs in various cases.

One example is Goal 10, which aims to reduce inequality. In order to reduce crime in general, we need to strive to address economic inequalities which make up a root cause of crime in general. Therefore, such efforts are related to Goal 10.

Another example is Goal 4, which strives to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education. In our activities to promote the rule of law and foster a culture of lawfulness, education to youth has a critical function. Thus, this undertaking is related to Goal 4.

Having in mind such multi-faceted relationship between our work here and the SDGs, I suppose it is quite meaningful that the overall theme for the 14th Crime Congress had been decided to be “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.”

*Mr. Chairperson,*

[Conclusion]

We welcome the resolution tabled by the delegation of Morocco to this session, which calls for discussions in the upcoming CCPCJ session on how the CCPCJ can meaningfully implement SDGs. We appreciate the initiative of the delegation of Morocco, in this regard and have expressed our full support to this by joining the resolution’s co-sponsorship. We believe that being conscious of this multi-faceted nature of the relationship between the CCPCJ’s activities and SDG implementation which I just described will contribute to fruitful discussions in the upcoming CCPCJ session and also that in 14th UN Crime Congress.

*Thank you very much for your attention.*