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**Statement by Mr. Tomochika UYAMA, Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Permanent Mission of Japan
at the 60th Session of the Trade and Development Board
Monday, 16 September 2013**

Mr. President,
Secretary General of UNCTAD, Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi
Excellencies,
And distinguished delegates,

Let me begin by expressing our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, for your appointment as the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. Under your strong leadership with affluent knowledge and rich experiences, I hope that UNCTAD will play a further constructive role in addressing major issues in trade and development.

I would like to express our sincere gratitude to H.E. Ambassador Seilenthal and H.E. Ambassador Tilieuberdi, for your hard work and dedication as the President of the TDB.

I would also like to congratulate H.E. Ambassador _____ on your election as the president of the TDB. We look forward to working under your wise guidance, and we assure you of our engagement and cooperation. .

Mr. President,

Recovery of the global economy is still weak and unemployment, particularly among the youth, remains in severe conditions. We recognize that international trade and investment are key drivers for sustainable development, balanced growth and creation of employment. In this regards, UNCTAD's role as the think-tank to conduct research and analysis as well as providing technical assistance in the area of international trade and investment has significant potential to guide developing countries towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development.

This TDB is important for reviewing the implementation of the Doha Mandate, which we adopted in UNCTAD XIII, and reaffirming our engagement to the further work through candid and fruitful discussions among member states and the Secretariat.

Mr. President,

Being among the world largest economies, we believe that strong economic recovery of Japan will be a significant contribution to the growth of global economy. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Abe, the Government of Japan is driving forward the policy for robust monetary and fiscal reform, which, together with the growth strategy, are called "Abenomics". Promoting free trade and open market economies is an essential basis of this policy.

Trade and investment is the key to foster economic growth in developing countries. In order to promote trade and investment, it is essential to create enabling business environment as well as the strong rules-based international trading system to increase the predictability and transparency. In this context, we commend UNCTAD's work on monitoring all forms of protectionism in cooperation with the WTO and OECD.

Mr. President,

Building strong production and trade capacity are indispensable for developing countries to fully benefit from international trade. The FDI is a key for the robust economic growth, leading to the better production capacity, increased employment and stronger export. Therefore, it is crucial to create an enabling business environment to attract the FDI, through each government's efforts such as pursuing good governance, developing appropriate national policies and building infrastructure.

One of the key characteristics of today's global economy is the fact that regional and global value chains are expanding rapidly. As illustrated in this year's World Investment Report, the FDI plays an important role to integrate developing countries into the regional and global value chains. Japan has been actively supporting the developing countries' efforts to improve the business and investment climate for attracting the FDI, which lead to a successful integration of development economies into global and regional value chains. In Asia, this is already happening.

In this regard, Japan wishes to highlight the importance of supporting Africa, in order for Africa to further promote the economic growth of Africa and to distribute the benefit of growth to all levels of society. The Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) was held last June, co-organized by the Government of Japan, the UN, the World Bank, the UNDP and the AUC, with the representatives of 51 African countries including 39 heads of States and Government, 31 development partner countries and Asian countries. Compared with the previous meetings, TICAD V put stronger focus on importance of trade and investment, recognizing that these are the real engines of growth. At the conference, Japan announced its contribution to growth of Africa, utilizing private and public fund of up to approximately JPY 3.2 trillion (equivalent to USD 32 billion), including ODA of approximately JPY 1.4 trillion (equivalent to USD 14 billion), in the next 5 years. All the participants at TICAD V affirmed the support of Africa's growth by promoting trade and investment through Public-Private Partnership while recognizing Africa as "business partner". This is because we believe this is the way to the real development for Africa, which benefit us all in the world.

Mr. President,

Lastly but not least, next year marks Fiftieth Anniversary of UNCTAD. Japan looks forward to further improvement of management and administration of UNCTAD under the Doha Mandate. We strongly wish the strong leadership of Dr. Kituyi in this regard. Japan will spare no effort to assist Dr. Kituyi in improving UNCTAD's activities.

Thank you, Mr. President.