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Opening Plenary item 1:

Speaker:
Japan on behalf of JUSSCANNZ

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58th TDB Executive Session
12-12-2013
Statement of JUSSCANNZ (Draft)

Mr President,
Secretary General Dr Kituyi,
Excellencies,
ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to deliver this statement on behalf of JUSSCANNZ.

At the outset, I would like to extend our warm welcome to our panellists.

(Commend the good work).

JUSSCANNZ looks forward to the presentation and panel discussions here today on this year's Least Developed Countries Report. We are happy to see the participation of the ILO, especially to build upon the Secretariat's efforts to greater integrate UNCTAD development strategies with those of the other international organizations. We also note UNCTAD's recent work related to youth employment on developing skills, knowledge and capacities through innovative e-learning, open educational resources, and training for trade, all as part of the Information Economy.

We are also interested in the presentation of this year's LDC report considering that it follows and relates to the first Informal Geneva Dialogue on post-2015 development agenda with Ms. Amina Mohammed, hosted by UNCTAD on 29 November. As we move forward in this process, we are interested to see how the major findings in this LDC report, which include the importance of inclusive growth, the need to address the LDCs' significant youth bulge, and the importance of targeting the rural economy, can contribute to the debates on post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, while considering the role of international trade.

The post-2015 Development Agenda will aim to (must) address poverty reduction, inclusive growth, and sustainability. We understand that trade can be an important driver of sustainable and inclusive economic development, within a mix of appropriate policies. Therefore we look forward to the contributions of our panellists on how to best use international trade to achieve economic growth, increase formal employment, especially among youth, and integrate social and environmental concerns, as part of the efforts to move the LDCs toward graduation.

We again offer our thanks to Mr. Taffere Tesfachew and his team for their work on this report and look forward to the discussions to follow.

Thank you, Mr President.