



JAPAN

Committee: Security Council

Delegation:

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Appointment of António Guterres as United Nations Secretary-General

As is well known, United Nations assumes an important role in various fields, from the maintenance of international peace and security, to development, climate change, disarmament, humanitarian affairs, and economic and legal issues. In the performance of its duties the organization is assisted by various organs, headed by the Secretary General. In this connection, all members of the organization are obliged to cooperate with each other and with the organization in order to achieve its goals. The role of Security Council members is, evidently, more noticeable since they are directly involved in urgent and serious global issues. Besides, the Secretary General plays an undeniable role in realizing the goals of the UN in general and Security Council in particular.

As an active Security Council member, who has served for ten terms in the council, Japan would like to express its full readiness to cooperate closely with the next Secretary General in contributing to address the global challenges and carrying out mandates entrusted to the Secretary General in the UN Charter.

Japan firmly endorses the idea that the Secretary General of the United Nations plays a unique and critical role in international relations. As the chief administrative officer of the United Nations, the Secretary General is responsible for a wide range of administrative, managerial and substantive tasks and serves as the head spokesman for the UN representing and upholding the organization's principles. He or she will, in fact, lead the most important organization on earth. Based on such critical position in the world of diplomacy, he or she is given the title "diplomat-in-chief of the world". In this context, his or her responsibilities are considered to be demanding, sensitive and overwhelming, since he or she has to deal with a variety of tasks and agencies.

This being the case, Japan as a Security Council member firmly believes that the head of the organization needs to be a knowledgeable, experienced and competent person who acts tirelessly in this capacity. In fact, special qualifications are required for the person who is entrusted with the most important position in the organization. By way of example, Secretary General must be

able to affect foreign relations of the nations throughout the world in a way that reinforces and promotes international friendly relations in all its forms. Moreover, his or her unparalleled role in international crises management is of great significance.

For these reasons, Japan is of the view that election must be conducted according to principles of transparency, equality and fairness. What matters most for the government of Japan in this process is that the new Secretary General must possess the required competency for the fulfillment of the related tasks. Therefore, Japan believes that the upcoming secretary general not only has to possess the experience in the field of foreign relations but needs to be someone who has dealt with the United Nations affairs professionally. Such experiences will undoubtedly help him/her fulfill the demanding task of UN leadership.