

**Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid
International Plan of Action on Ageing
Bangkok, 12-14 September 2017**

Name of speaker: (Mr) (Ms.) Tomoya Tanaka

Country/Organization: Japan

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Agenda Item No: 3

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**Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and
Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing**

Explanation by Mr. Tomoya Tanaka

Principal Deputy Director for Aging Society Policies

Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

September 12-14, 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand

- Thank you Mr. Chairperson.
- Good Morning. Ladies and Gentlemen. Distinguished delegations.

- Firstly, I apologize that I was absent yesterday owing to my other official business in Japan.
- Originally, I was to talk during the yesterday's session, but it is my great pleasure to have this opportunity to talk to you today. Thank you.

- I would like to introduce facts and challenges for Japan's ageing society.
- Please look at the screen.

- This is a comparison on ageing among some countries. The percentage shows the ratio of people aged 65 and over in the whole population.
- Red line is Japan's ratio. The ratio was 26.6% in 2015
- Another point to notice in Japan is that, for the first time, the population over 75 became more than the population under 15 in 2015.
- Japan's ageing rate has a rapid growth and is one of the highest level in the world. Moreover, the ageing rate is estimated to keep increase.

- This chart shows “Life expectancy” and “Health life expectancy” of both male and female.
 - These expectancies increased.
 - However, the difference between Life expectancy and health life expectancy has not become any smaller.
 - Making this difference smaller is our challenge.
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- This chart shows transition about number of people of 65 (years old) and over by city scale, population of the city.
 - As city scale becomes larger, the growth rate of number of people of 65 and over becomes larger.
 - We think that measures for people of 65 and over living in large cities will become more important and more.
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- This chart shows the percentage of one-person households among older people of 65 (years old) and over.
 - These increasing percentage are remarkable for both male and female. The percentage is estimated to increase more and more in the future.
 - It is said that an increasing percentage of unmarried people may be a reason of this situation/phenomenon.
 - As a number of one-person household increases, government may need to consider some measures about care service for people, prevention of social isolation, and so on.
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- This graph shows the certain number of employees who needed to leave or change their jobs in order to provide family nursing care for their families.
 - It shows that 46 thousand employees left their jobs in 2009, while in 2015, 90 thousand, a double number of employees

left their jobs.

- The number is not much compared to Japan's 57 million employed workers, but it is still not a small number. We need to seek measures to prevent employees from leaving their jobs for family care.

- This graph shows "The Rate of Labor Force Population."
- Labor force population of people 65 and over is increasing. Especially, the rate of labor force between 65 and 69 was 44.0% in 2016. This is a good news for our economy.
- More and more older workers hope to continue working because they are healthier and have a lot of skills and experience.

- Finally, let me introduce current main policy measures for older workers.
- Japanese government is promoting the support of elderly working through "the Japan's Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens" and "the Action Plan for the Realization of Work Style Reform". Both plans were made by Prime Minister's leadership.
- In addition, now we are discussing to revise "Outline of Aging Society Measures" with anticipating of future vision in Japan's ageing society.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the kind collaboration of each respective country and the Secretariat Office of ESCAP.

I look forward to your continuing support.

Thank you.