

**76th Session of the UNHCR Executive Committee
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Statement by Ambassador OIKE Atsuyuki

Permanent Representative of Japan

**Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in
Geneva**

Mr. Chair, High Commissioner, Excellencies, and distinguished colleagues,

Mr. Chair,

Let me begin by expressing Japan's deep appreciation to all UNHCR personnel, including the 4,400 staff members who recently had to leave the organization.

We fully recognize the operational and emotional toll of these departures—both for those who have left, and for the colleagues who remain.

Despite this, staff continue to serve with integrity and dedication.

As we begin this session, Member States must first commend this unwavering commitment by UNHCR.

Humanitarian workers should be shown appreciation and respect, never hostility.

Attacks on humanitarian personnel are absolutely unacceptable. Last month, Japan joined over 100 countries in endorsing the ***Declaration on the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel***.

We are deeply concerned about the increasing disregard for **International Humanitarian Law**.

Upholding IHL—and the values it represents—is our shared responsibility.

Mr. Chair,

Over the past decade, the number of forcibly displaced persons worldwide has doubled.

High Commissioner Grandi has led UNHCR through this increasingly challenging period, facing a growing gap between humanitarian needs

and available resources.

His leadership, along with the dedication of his team, deserves our deep appreciation.

One notable success is UNHCR's deepened engagement with the private sector.

Japan's private contributions to UNHCR have tripled over the past 10 years, with Japan ranking third globally last year.

Further, these partnerships go beyond funding—frameworks for cooperation with Japanese companies are also expanding.

At the **9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development** held in August, Assistant High Commissioner Mazou's participation helped promote broader engagement of this kind.

Mr. Chair,

We support the **sustainable responses** approach.

This represents a concrete realization of the **Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus** and is effective in achieving all four objectives of the **Global Compact on Refugees**.

UNHCR's collaboration with development agencies, development finance institutions, and local governments is not a retreat from responsibility.

Rather, it reflects the recognition that durable solutions require broader and more inclusive partnerships.

Whether the eventual solution takes the form of voluntary return, third-country resettlement, or local inclusion, what is needed is support that enables people to envision a future where they can live with dignity and hope.

For this reason, from the perspective of human security, support must go beyond humanitarian assistance alone.

This, we believe, is at the core of sustainable responses.

Discussions on the **Humanitarian Reset** should also highlight the importance of transitioning toward durable solutions that ensure a better future for those relying on humanitarian assistance.

At the same time, host countries continue to keep their borders open

and host refugees in protracted situations.

Therefore, the development financing mobilized under the sustainable responses approach must be additional—not diverted from existing sources—because it should reflect international burden-sharing.

Let me share one example.

In South Sudan, floods and climate change have severely affected both displaced persons and host communities.

In August, Japan provided additional funding to support 26,000 displaced persons, returnees, and host community members through a project on adaptive agroforestry and livestock production there.

The creation of conditions for voluntary return to countries of origin must also be pursued through sustainable responses.

This month, Japan will host the **Ukraine Mine Action Conference**, aiming for the safe return and reconstruction of the lives of displaced Ukrainians.

Finally,

We attach high importance to the **Progress Review Meeting of the Global Refugee Forum** this December.

The meeting will provide a critical opportunity to assess progress, renew efforts, and demonstrate international solidarity affirming multilateralism. Japan stands ready to contribute to its success.

Thank you.