Statement by the Permanent Mission of Japan
At the General Discussion of the Second Committee of the General Assembly
On Item 21, Globalization and Interdependence

23 October 2013

Mr. Chair,

Firstly, I would like to thank the Secretary-General and the secretariat for the preparation of their reports under this agenda item.

(Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization)

The rapid globalization of today’s world greatly changes people’s lives, but we must make sure that this change leaves no one behind. The United Nations has a crucial role in ensuring inter-linkages between globalization, poverty eradication and sustainable development through multilateral coordination.

(Science and technology for development)
Mr. Chair,

As GA resolution 66/211 states, science and technology can play the vital role in development and in facilitating efforts to eradicate poverty. In this regard, Japan is committed to further developing and sharing its knowledge and technologies with partners among the international community. For its part, the international community should assist developing countries to integrate policies regarding science, technology and innovation into their respective national development strategies, and facilitate the diffusion and transfer of science and technology under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms.

(Development cooperation with middle-income countries)
Mr. Chair,

In the changing landscape of development, the role of middle-income countries has become more important. Japan has been working closely with middle-income countries in encouraging and implementing south-south and triangular cooperation as highly effective means of technology transfer and international cooperation between countries of different
development stages, making use of the recent development experience of middle-income countries. This increasingly important role played by middle-income countries, in addition to the private sector, civil society and philanthropic organizations, should be fully taken into account in the discussion on a renewed global partnership in the post-2015 development agenda. We should also not forget that middle-income countries still face difficult problems such as poverty and disparities. In this regard, Japan supports middle-income countries through a combination of a variety of bilateral assistance schemes such as technical assistance, grant aid and Yen Loan to respond to the specific needs of each country.

(Culture and development)
Mr. Chair,

Being a country with unique culture and tradition, Japan places great emphasis on culture in development. Culture should not be overlooked if we were to achieve equitable, inclusive and sustainable development.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.