

Statement by Mr. Masaya Sagawa  
Delegation of Japan  
SIDS  
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Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

I would also like to thank the three panelists for their presentations.

Waste management is the serious challenge SIDS face in view of population increase and change of consumption patterns. SIDS are suffering from various negative impacts including on health, fisheries and tourism. The capacity building in SIDS is urgently needed and international partnership should be further enhanced in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,

In April 2009, at the 5<sup>th</sup> Japan - Pacific Island Forum Summit (PALM 5) in Hokkaido, Japan, the leaders in the Pacific recognized the importance of 3R (reduce, reuse and recycle) for promoting efficient use of resources and materials and for minimizing environmental impacts along the entire product life cycle. They are also committed to pursuing collaborative efforts in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Strategy for the Pacific Region and its Action Plan.

In May 2010, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has successfully concluded its four year regional waste management project in Samoa, which was designed to strengthen the implementation of the Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy, together with SPREP (Pacific Regional Environment Programme) as partner organization of the project. Currently JICA is cooperating with the Government of Fiji in implementing "Waste Minimization and Recycling Promotion Project," which introduced a new interpretation of 3R concept for SIDS by adding another R for "Return for recycle".

Mr. Chairman,

Japan is also active in promoting 3R in the Caribbean countries. Last September, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Conference in Tokyo, the Foreign Ministers discussed the importance of realizing a recycling-based society and expressed their will to cooperate in promoting 3R. At the same meeting, Japan announced its intention to transfer Japan's technology in this field under the framework of "Japan-CARICOM Partnership Programme" and willingness to work with the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI) in a joint capacity building program which includes dispatching Japanese experts to the Caribbean countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Waste management will remain one of the priority areas in Japan's assistance to SIDS. As Prime Minister Naoto Kan said last September at the High Level Review Meeting of MSI (Mauritius Strategy of Implementation), "Japan will continue to be a firm supporter of all small island developing States."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.