

Concluding Remarks
by Takuji Tanaka, Executive Director for Japan, IMF
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Good morning, Good afternoon and Good late evening! It is my great honor and pleasure to make concluding remarks for the eleventh IMF-Japan High-Level Tax Conference for Asian Countries.

We all congratulate ourselves on accomplishing these three-day international and intensive virtual sessions. As a member of the board of IMF and an executive director representing Japan and Ministry of Finance, I am in a position to be grateful to all participants from authorities of Asian countries for the constructive discussion. We appreciate co-hosting with IMF led by Fiscal Department and ICD and the Japanese Ministry of Finance for making this virtual conference so successful. Special thanks will go to Mr. Gaspar and Kiyoshi-san whom I think all of you might be grateful to. We are impressed by the innovative poll as well.

Personally, I fully recognize the importance of this conference as I co-hosted this conference 4 times in the past as the head of international taxation team at the Ministry including direct participation in BEPS project and establishment process of Inclusive Framework from 2014-2016.

At this concluding opportunity, I would sketch out three points for your reminder and emphasis.

First, on fiscal policy under the Covid-19, fiscal policy should keep tailored and flexible to respond to the great uncertainty of the pandemic with well targeted reallocation of resources towards a green, smart, resilient and truly inclusive economy.

On the other hand, there is growing awareness on debt sustainability and fiscal deficits. Along with the efficiency of public spending, we should build fiscal space for resilience by strengthening revenue mobilization through enhancing tax capacity. This is the point where we stand.

As to the International taxation, among two-pillar approach to international corporate taxation set by the OECD's Inclusive Framework, the agreement reached by the G7 countries on pillar 2, minimum taxes, has provided fresh momentum to international tax system. We expect that highly profitable multi-national firms pay sufficient tax and, at the same time, pay a part of it to countries where they have significant engagement in emerging and low-income developing countries.

Thirdly, let me touch on IMF function.

IMF has three fundamental functions, namely, surveillance, lending and Capacity Development (CD). Japan has been a leading country to contribute to CD of IMF for more than 30 years since the establishment of Japan Sub Account (JSA) for CD and scholarship in 1990 when I

was coincidentally directly involved in the process of this JSA fund establishment. Japanese government together with IMF will support CD like this conference and support further efforts of the relevant countries in demand of CD in the area including taxation, domestic resource mobilization and Public Financial Management in general.

Last but not least, now we have established cooperation in the tax field among countries bilaterally and multilaterally through OECD and IMF. But we could further strengthen the ties already existing among us in terms of personal network on taxation among countries. It would be more than happy that this conference will become a starting point for networking, help build solid network and involve more officials in all Asian authorities.

For IMF side, it is also a very precious opportunity to hear voices from top officials like you in this region to implement demand driven TA, conduct better analytical works and reflect them into more effective policy advice.

Our Japanese office of IMF stands ready to hear and connect your voices of Asian colleagues to the IMF.

Said that, we cannot express more appreciation to all of you, thank you very much.

I wish all of you, people in your country and authorities safe and sound, and all the best! Thank you.