

Submission in follow-up to HRC resolution 19/34 “The right to development”

Japan

The Government of Japan regrets that constructive discussions have not taken place on the draft criteria and sub-criteria formulated by the high level Task Force. The Working Group should deliberate upon and refine, as necessary, the draft criteria and sub-criteria as a basis for possible indicators on the right to development. Engagement by relevant UN agencies and experts is crucial in order to establish effective indicators on the right to development.

While States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, the Government of Japan acknowledges that international cooperation can play an important role to assist states to promote and protect human rights, including the right to development. In this regards, Japan remains committed to achieving Millennium Development Goals as well as to the international discussions concerning possible post-Millennium Development Goals (post-MDGs). All UN agencies are already taking part in the review of the current MDGs and will continue to engage in discussions on possible new international development goals. For instance, the Secretary-General plans to set up a high-level panel on post-MDGs following the Rio+20 summit in June 2012 and a special event on MDGs will take place during the General Assembly in 2013.

Japan therefore considers that the Working Group on the right to development will benefit further from inputs from the on-going internationally coordinated efforts in the field of the MDGs and possible post-MDGs as it discusses the draft criteria and sub-criteria formulated by the high level Task Force in order to ensure that they are truly operational and thus can have a role to play in realizing the right to development.