

8<sup>th</sup> Special Session of the Executive Board  
Explanation of vote by H.E. Mr KANO Takehiro (Japan)

Japan voted in favor for the proposed decision, taking into account that UNESCO is the only UN agency with a mandate to cover all aspects of education, and has its long history of supporting and partnering with UNRWA.

It is regrettable, however, that the consensus was not made on the decision, while we do respect all parties engaged in trying to come up with a text acceptable to all until the last minute.

This should not become a precedent in the future. Nor should it overshadow or hinder the ongoing UNESCO's activities in Gaza or elsewhere.

(END)