

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. MOTOME TAKISAWA,  
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JAPAN**

2017 High Level Segment of the Conference on Disarmament  
28 February 2017, Geneva, Switzerland

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Ambassador Borodavkin, on your assumption of the Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament (CD). I assure you of the full support and cooperation of my delegation throughout your tenure. I also would like to express my gratitude to the Secretary General, Mr. Michael Møller, and his team for their continuous support for the work of the Conference.

Mr. President,

The DPRK conducted its fifth nuclear test last September and launched ballistic missiles more than 20 times since the beginning of last year, including the most recent one on 12th February this year. This series of provocations seriously undermines the peace and security of Northeast Asia, as well as the international community. These are serious violations of relevant UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs), the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration, as well as the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks of September 2005. Furthermore, they represent a serious challenge to the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime centered on the NPT. Thus, Japan lodges a serious protest against the DPRK, and strongly condemns its nuclear tests and missile launches. Japan reiterates its strong demand for the DPRK to immediately and fully implement relevant UNSCRs, including UNSCR2321, and other commitments.

In order to strengthen the International Monitoring System aimed at detecting nuclear tests, Japan has decided to contribute an additional 2.4 million US dollars to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). We hope this contribution will lead to more effective global monitoring of nuclear tests, including the ones carried out by the DPRK.

Mr. President,

The Conference on Disarmament has been in a stalemate for more than two-decades. Japan urges its Member States to make every effort to break its deadlock. Japan welcomes the decision on the establishment of a Working Group under the Romanian Presidency and strongly hopes that the discussions and deliberations in the Working Group will lead to the adoption of a programme of work with a negotiation mandate. Japan will spare no effort to this end.

Mr. President,

The 2020 NPT Review process starts this year. As the NPT remains the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, it is critical to maintain and strengthen the regime. To this end, in light of the fact that the 2015 NPT Review Conference was not able to reach agreement on the substantive part of the draft final document and the rift among the international community, it is vital to achieve a meaningful outcome at the 2020 NPT Review Conference.

Japan has consistently stated that practical and concrete measures with the cooperation between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States are necessary to promote nuclear disarmament. In addition, the efforts to promote nuclear disarmament should be promoted based on two understandings, a clear understanding of the humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and the objective assessment of the reality of the security situation.

In order to contribute to the 2020 NPT Review process, Japan hosted “The International Conference in Nagasaki – Towards a World Free of Nuclear Weapons” along with the United Nations last December in Nagasaki. In addition, at the margin of this conference, Japan hosted an informal meeting on issues related to a Middle East WMD Free Zone.

Furthermore, in an effort of Japan to spread the awareness of the reality of the devastation of atomic bombings across national borders and generations, Japan organized a Forum of Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons with the United Nations as part of the Nagasaki Conference. In this forum, youths from Japan, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America, came together and actively exchanged their views on how to spread

awareness to the world.

Mr. President,

As concrete measures for nuclear disarmament, Japan attaches particular importance to a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices(FMCT), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and transparency of nuclear forces.

In terms of an FMCT, as a member of the high level FMCT expert preparatory group which is established by the decision of UNGA Resolution 71/259, Japan will contribute to the process actively by utilizing its expertise. However, it does not mean that the establishment of the preparatory group gives respite to the members of the Conference on Disarmament. We should spare no effort to start negotiation of the FMCT immediately.

As Co-Coordinator of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT, Japan has worked to facilitate its early entry into force together with Kazakhstan. In addition, Japan will host the Regional Conference for States in South East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East Region (SEAPFE) in order to promote the signing and ratification of the CTBT in the region this year. Through such an initiative, Japan will continue to promote the signing and ratification of the CTBT.

Mr. President,

Finally, as the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings during war, Japan will continue to make every effort to promote nuclear disarmament. Japan will cooperate with Member States to this end, including NPDI members.

Thank you for your attention.

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