

A stylized world map in a light orange color, centered on the Atlantic Ocean, serves as the background for the top half of the page. The map is semi-transparent, allowing the orange background to show through.

Chapter 3

Japan's Foreign Policy to Promote National and Global Interests

Section 1	Efforts for Peace and Stability of Japan and the International Community	188
Section 2	Japan's International Cooperation (Development Cooperation and Response to Global Issues)	270
Section 3	Economic Diplomacy	300
Section 4	Efforts to Promote Understanding and Trust in Japan	343

Section 1

Efforts for Peace and Stability of Japan and the International Community

Overview

(National Security)

It is no exaggeration to say that the security environment surrounding Japan is most severe since the end of World War II. Since 2016, North Korea has conducted three nuclear tests, and fired as many as 40 ballistic missiles, including ones that flew over Japan on two consecutive occasions, constituting an unprecedented, grave and imminent threat. Furthermore, the increase in China's military spending which is lacking transparency, and its unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion at sea and in the airspace at areas such as the East and South China Seas, have become a common concern of the international community. Moreover, risks such as the spread and diversification of international terrorism and cyberattacks are becoming more serious.

Facing such a security environment, it has become important for Japan itself to fulfill its responsibility and role, more than ever before, in order to ensure the security of Japan and the peace and stability of the region. From this perspective, Japan promotes vibrant diplomacy under the

policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation. At the same time, under the "Legislation for Peace and Security," Japan strives to ensure its own security, while making concrete efforts to contribute even more proactively in securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.

It goes without saying that the presence and role of the U.S. are important for ensuring the peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, including Japan. From this perspective, in order to ensure the forward deployment of the U.S. Forces under the Japan-U.S. security arrangements and, further strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, both Japan and the U.S. have been expanding and strengthening cooperation in a wide range of areas such as ballistic missile defense, cyberspace, outer space, and maritime security, including efforts made under the new Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation (the New Guidelines) and the "Legislation for Peace and Security." With regard to the realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan, both Governments are determined to mitigate

the impact on local communities, including Okinawa, while maintaining deterrence, by steadily implementing the existing agreements between the two Governments, including the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Futenma to Henoko.

In addition to strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance, it is necessary for Japan to build trust and cooperative relations with its partners both inside and outside the Asia-Pacific region, and to create multilayered relationships for security cooperation. Japan promotes security cooperation with Australia, India, European countries including the UK and France, Member States of the Association of South Asian Nations (ASEAN), and other countries with which it shares strategic interests.

Furthermore, it is also important to promote the institutionalization of regional cooperation frameworks in the security aspect of the Asia-Pacific region. Japan also advances partnership and cooperation through multilayered regional cooperation frameworks, including the East Asia Summit (EAS) and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and through trilateral cooperation frameworks such as the Japan-U.S.-ROK, Japan-U.S.-Australia, Japan-U.S.-India and Japan-Australia-India frameworks, as well as the quadripartite framework of Japan- Australia-India-U.S.

(Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding)

The security and prosperity of Japan cannot be achieved merely by improving the security environment surrounding Japan, as it also depends on the peace and stability of the international community. Based on this understanding, Japan is actively engaging in addressing various issues and challenges that confront the international

community. In particular, Japan addresses peacebuilding as one of its key diplomatic agendas, which is essential in order to prevent the outbreak and recurrence of conflicts and to achieve sustainable peace. In this regard, Japan works comprehensively on peacekeeping, emergency humanitarian assistance, promotion of peace processes, maintenance of security, and reconstruction and development. These include Japan's proactive cooperation with United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), and its engagement in the development of social infrastructure and human resources through Official Development Assistance (ODA).

(Threats to Security)

Although the territory controlled by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Iraq and Syria has shrunk, the return or relocation of foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) who had been under the influence of ISIL to their home countries or to third countries has spread the threat of terrorism, and this threat is also growing in Asia. In May 2017, a group self-professed to be "ISIL East Asia" occupied a part of Marawi City in the Philippines. While the military operations have been completed, there is still a need to continue closely monitoring the situation in Mindanao including Marawi City.

In 2016, Japan formulated the "G7 Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism" at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit, and at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting held during the same year, declared its commitment to putting in place comprehensive counter-terrorism measures that are comprised of the following initiatives: (1) Improvement of

counter- terrorism capacity; (2) Measures to counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism; and, (3) Social and economic development assistance for creating a foundation for a moderate society. Japan is steadily promoting international cooperation in measures to counter-terrorism and violent extremism in line with these plans.

(Disarmament and Non-proliferation and the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy)

As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings, Japan has been actively engaged in disarmament and non-proliferation efforts to realize “a world free of nuclear weapons.” To achieve progress in nuclear disarmament, it is necessary to put repeated effort into realistic and practical measures with the cooperation of both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States. Based on this understanding, Foreign Minister Kishida attended the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)¹ held in May, where he announced Japan’s proposal about the pathway towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In September, Foreign Minister Kono attended the 10th Conference on Facilitating the Entry into

Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)², where he declared Japan’s determination to continue leading international efforts towards the early entry into force of the CTBT. He also co-hosted the 9th Ministerial Meeting of the Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI)³ with Germany, and issued statements confirming cooperation as the NPDI towards the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT, and strongly condemning North Korea’s nuclear tests and missile development.

While the divergent views as to the way to advance nuclear disarmament had come to the surface, Japan submitted a draft resolution regarding the elimination of nuclear weapons to the UN General Assembly with the aim of providing a common ground by rebuilding trust amongst all states and to bridge gaps among states with different positions. This resolution was adopted with wide support from countries with various positions. Furthermore, Japan held the first meeting of a Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament in Hiroshima in November, which contributed to rebuilding trust and cooperation among countries having differing approaches towards a world free of nuclear weapons, and which drew recommendations that contributed

¹ Opened for signing in 1968, and entered into force in 1970. 191 countries are parties to the treaty (countries that have not ratified the treaty are India, Pakistan, Israel, and South Sudan). (1) Nuclear non-proliferation: Defines the five countries of U.S., Russia, UK, France, and China as “nuclear-weapon States,” and prevents the proliferation of nuclear weapons to countries other than the “nuclear-weapon States;” (2) Nuclear disarmament: Stipulates the obligation of State Parties to faithfully engage in negotiations on nuclear disarmament (Article 6); (3) Use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes: Stipulates the use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes as an “inalienable right” of all State Parties (Article 4.1). In addition, it also sets out the obligation for non-nuclear-weapon States to accept the safeguards of the International Atomic and Energy Agency (IAEA), with the aim of preventing the transfer of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes to military technology (Article 3).

² Prohibits experimental explosions of nuclear weapons and nuclear explosions in all places including outer space, within the atmosphere, in water, and underground. Although it was opened for signing in 1996, as of December 2017, of the 44 countries required to ratify the treaty in order for it to enter into force, China, Egypt, Iran, Israel, and the U.S. have not yet ratified the treaty, while India, North Korea, and Pakistan have not yet signed it. Hence, it has not entered into force. In the past two years, Myanmar and Swaziland ratified the treaty on September 2016, while Thailand is currently undergoing domestic procedures towards ratification.

³ A group of cross-regional non-nuclear-weapon States established under the leadership of Japan and Australia in 2010, it now has 12 members. The other members are Canada, Chile, Germany, Poland, Mexico, the Netherlands, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the Philippines and Nigeria.

to achieving substantive advancement of nuclear disarmament.

Japan is also putting much effort into strengthening the framework of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other arms. A representative example is its initiatives aimed at strengthening and enhancing the efficiency of the safeguards⁴ of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)⁵, which plays a central role in international nuclear non-proliferation. In addition, Japan participates in the export control regimes, which are frameworks for the appropriate control of the export of weapons and related dual-use goods and technologies.

As for the regional nuclear proliferation issues, the nuclear agreement between Iran and EU3 (UK, France, Germany, and EU) +3 (the U.S., China, and Russia) has continued to be upheld, and the IAEA has reported that Iran has implemented its commitments based on this nuclear agreement.

On the other hand, North Korea's nuclear and missile problem is posing a new level of threat not only to East Asia but also to the international community. In light of this situation, Japan has continued to discuss nuclear issues and nuclear non-proliferation issues with the relevant countries, and engaged in capacity building efforts in the field of non-proliferation, including strengthening the IAEA safeguards and export controls, particularly in developing countries in Asia.

Japan is also actively engaged in efforts in the field of nuclear security, such as by organizing the relevant conferences in Tokyo, with the aim of preventing nuclear materials from falling into the hands of terrorists and other criminals.

Japan's basic approach is to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which is one of the three pillars of the NPT, while securing nuclear non-proliferation. Japan takes wide-ranging initiatives, including promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy through means such as the conclusion of bilateral nuclear cooperation agreements, while also focusing on promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in developing countries and contributing to development agenda. Japan takes further steps to deal with the aftermath of the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (the Fukushima Daiichi accident) and moves forward on reconstruction, while gaining the understanding and support of the international community. Japan also contributes to strengthening nuclear safety globally by sharing its experience of the accident with the international community.

(The Oceans and Seas/ Cyberspace/ Outer space)

"Free, Open and Stable Seas," which are upheld by a maritime order governed by law and rules and not by force, are essential for peace and prosperity not only of Japan, but

⁴ The IAEA was established in 1957 to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to prevent it from being diverted from peaceful to military uses. Its secretariat is located in Vienna. Its highest decision-making body is the General Conference, which consists of all member countries and meets once a year. The 35-member Board of Governors carries out the IAEA's functions, subject to its responsibilities to the General Conference. As of February 2017, the IAEA has 168 member countries.

⁵ Verification measures (inspections, checks of each country's material accountancy (management of its inventory of nuclear material) records, etc.) undertaken by the IAEA in accordance with the safeguards agreements concluded by each individual country and the IAEA, in order to assure that nuclear material is being used exclusively for peaceful purposes and is not being diverted for use in nuclear weapons or the like. Pursuant to Article 3 of the NPT, the non-nuclear-weapon States that are contracting parties to the NPT are required to conclude safeguards agreements with the IAEA and to accept safeguards on all nuclear material within their borders (comprehensive safeguards).

also of the international community as a whole. From the perspective of contributing to maintaining and strengthening a maritime order, Japan is dedicated to ensuring the freedom of navigation and overflight and safe maritime transport under the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy,” through various efforts and cooperation as well as support with other countries, including anti-piracy operations. Especially for Japan, a maritime nation surrounded by the sea, a maritime order, with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) at the core, is indispensable for securing its maritime rights and interests as well as for undertaking maritime activities smoothly.

Regarding cyber issues, in order to ensure a free, fair and secure cyberspace, Japan contributes proactively to international discussions on cyber security, including the promotion of rule of law in cyberspace. For this purpose, Japan cooperates with a wide range of stakeholders, such as private companies and experts. Furthermore, Japan promotes concrete forms of cooperation and confidence-building measures with other countries through dialogues and discussions on cyber issues. At the same time, Japan provides support for capacity building in developing countries and others.

In order to tackle increasing risks accompanying the diversified use of outer space and increasing number of countries using space, Japan has been engaged in efforts to realize the rule of law in outer space as well as conducting dialogues and consultations with other countries on space while promoting international cooperation in the fields of space science and exploration, and supporting overseas business development of the Japanese

space industry.

(United Nations)

For two years from January 2016 to the end of 2017, Japan served as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the 11th time, which is more frequent than any other UN Member State (See Special Feature “Summary of Japan’s contribution during its 11th term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council”). During its term on the Council, Japan contributed proactively to discussions on issues surrounding North Korea, Africa, and the Middle East, in order to exert leadership towards achieving international peace and security.

Japan is also putting efforts into the UN Security Council reform, including Japan’s entry as a permanent member of the Council, with the pressing need to reform the Council in a way that reflects the realities of the international community in the 21st century, so that the Council can deal more effectively with contemporary challenges. Furthermore, in order to continue contributing to the maintenance of peace and security in the international community prior to its admission as a permanent member, Japan is running for the UNSC non-permanent membership election in 2022, in order to serve, as frequently as possible, as a member of the Council.

Today, the international community is confronted by a wide range of challenges across borders including conflicts, terrorism, refugees, poverty, climate change, and infectious diseases, and the UN has to fulfill an expanding role. Under the policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on

international cooperation, Japan will take an even more proactive approach towards tackling these issues through the UN. Japan will also continue to be proactively engaged in the UN reform, including the reform of the Security Council, so that the UN can cope more effectively with the various issues faced by the international community.

(Rule of Law)

The rule of law is the concept that recognizes the superiority of the law over all forms of power; it is the basis of the international order that consists of friendly and equitable relations between states, as well as an essential cornerstone of a fair and just domestic society. The rule of law is also an important factor in promoting “good governance” in each state and in ensuring the peaceful settlement of disputes between states. Based on this view, Japan promotes the bilateral and multilateral rule-making and implements these rules in various fields, such as security, economic and social affairs, and criminal justice. Furthermore, in order to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes and maintain international legal order, Japan actively cooperates with international judicial organizations such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), and the International Criminal Court (ICC), to strengthen their functions via contributions both in terms of human resources and financial needs. In addition, Japan has been working to enhance the rule of law in Asia as well as the international community as a whole via provision of legal technical assistance, participation in international conferences, exchanges with various countries, and hosting of events

related to international law.

(Human Rights)

Human rights, freedom and democracy are fundamental values. The protection and promotion of these values are the basic responsibility for all states and a legitimate concern of the entire international community. It is essential that these values are fully guaranteed in each country not only for the peace and prosperity of Japan, but also for laying the foundations of peace and stability in the international community. Towards this end, Japan is working actively in the field of human rights. Specifically, Japan has been making proactive contributions to improve the human rights situation around the world through dialogue and cooperation. Japan is also engaged in bilateral dialogues, actively participates in multilateral forums, including the UN, and continues constructive dialogues with human rights mechanisms.

(Women)

Japan has been leading the international community to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment, and to achieve “a society where women shine” around the world. As a part of these efforts, Japan leads discussions to promote women’s empowerment in the world through fora such as the World Assembly for Women (WAW!). In the field of international cooperation, to promote the empowerment of women in developing countries, Japan announced its commitment to provide support of more than 3 billion U.S. dollars by 2018 and is steadily implementing this initiative, based on the “Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women’s

Empowerment” that aims to further strengthen women’s capabilities and their advancement in society.

1 National Security Initiatives

(1) “Proactive Contribution to Peace” Based on the Principle of International Cooperation

It is no exaggeration to state that the security environment surrounding Japan has become the most severe since the end of World War II. North Korea has continuously taken provocative actions, disregarding the strong will of the international community towards peaceful solution. Since 2016, North Korea has conducted three nuclear tests, and launched as many as 40 ballistic missiles, including ballistic missiles that flew over Japan on two consecutive occasions, constituting an unprecedented, grave and imminent threat. China has been strengthening its military power extensively and rapidly in a way that lacks transparency as it has not provided any detailed breakdown of its national defense budgets despite the increase of the expenditures by approximately 49 times over the past 29 years only according to its public announcement. China has also continued with its unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion at sea and in the airspace in the East and South China Seas, based on its own claims, which are inconsistent with the existing international order. Furthermore, there are diversifying global security challenges, including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the growing threat of terrorism, and emerging issues in new domains such as cyberspace and outer space. In such a security environment, any threats, wherever in the world they occur,

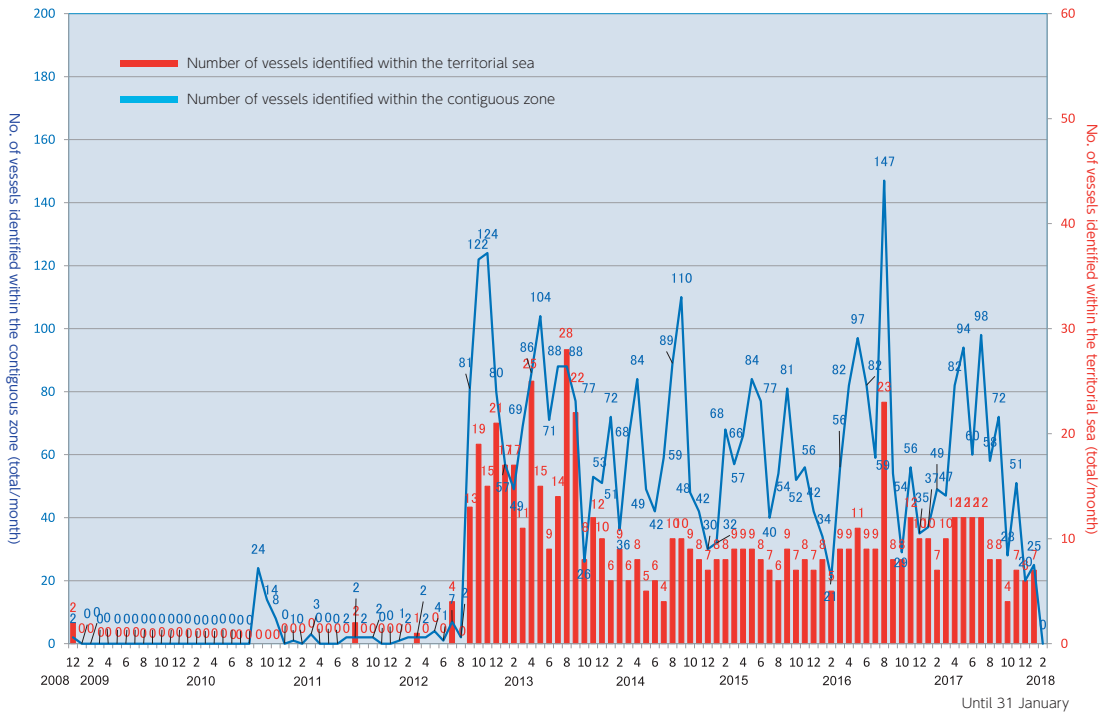
could directly affect the security of Japan, and no nation can any longer maintain its own security alone.

Since the end of World War II, Japan has consistently followed the path of a peace-loving nation under the Constitution of Japan, and has proactively contributed to the peace and prosperity of the international community through cooperation with the international community as well as other international organizations, including the United Nations. Japan’s such posture has garnered appreciation and respect from the international community. The international community expects Japan to play a more proactive role for the peace and security in the world in a way commensurate with its national capabilities.

Continuing to adhere to the course that it has taken to date as a peace-loving nation, Japan will advance vibrant diplomacy under the policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, and will contribute even more proactively to the peace and security of the international community.

(2) Enforcement of the “Legislation for Peace and Security,” and Initiatives Based on the Legislation

In order to adapt to the changes in the security environment surrounding Japan and to secure the lives and peaceful livelihood of its people, it is important to advance vibrant diplomacy to create a stable and predictable international environment. In addition, it is important to enable seamless responses to any situations, and to contribute even more proactively to the peace and stability of the international community under the



A ballistic missile with an intercontinental ballistic missile range, launched by North Korea on November 29, 2017

policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation. To achieve these objectives, the “Legislation for Peace and Security” took effect in March 2016.

This legislation aims to solidify Japan’s orientation as a peace-loving nation, including adherence to its exclusively defense-oriented policy. Moreover, the legislation strengthens the Japan-U.S. Alliance and enhances the deterrence



Undergoing reclamation and militarization at the Fiery Cross Reef on the South China Sea
Top: August 14, 2014
Bottom: November 19, 2017 (Section in red: Outpost developed in 2017)

capability of Japan, thus enables Japan to prevent conflicts beforehand, and to further contribute to the international community. Given that the scope of supplies and services that the Self-Defence Forces (SDF) can provide for forces of other countries has been expanded under the “Legislation for Peace and Security,” new Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreements (ACSA) with the U.S. (April) and Australia (September) entered into force, and an ACSA with the UK (August) also entered into force. In addition, Japan also reached a substantial agreement with Canada on ACSA negotiations, and arrived at a broad agreement with France.

Japan has taken advantage of a variety of opportunities to thoroughly explain the “Legislation for Peace and Security” to foreign countries. Not only the U.S. but also a number of countries and organizations including Australia, ASEAN Member States, European countries, Central and South American countries, and the UN have expressed their understanding and support for this legislation. This clearly demonstrates that the “Legislation for Peace and Security” is legislation that contributes to the peace and security of the world.

(3) Territorial Integrity

Maintaining territorial integrity is a fundamental responsibility of the Government. Japan's policy to resolutely protect its land, sea and airspace remains unchanged. Japan will continue to maintain its stance of responding firmly but in a calm manner. The relevant Government agencies are working in close cooperation to advance measures to ensure a seamless and adequate response to any form of unlawful acts. At the same time, the

Government of Japan engages in proactive efforts to promote awareness of Japan's position on territorial integrity among the international community, making use of the contacts and knowledge of our diplomatic missions overseas.

2 Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

(1) Overview of Japan-U.S. Security Relationship

Under the security environment surrounding Japan, which is becoming increasingly severe, it is indispensable to strengthen the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and to enhance the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. Alliance not only for the peace and security of Japan but also for the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region. Based on the robust bilateral relationship confirmed through such meetings as the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in February and November 2017, Japan and the U.S. are further enhancing their deterrence and response capabilities under the Guidelines and the Legislation for Peace and Security. Through such efforts, Japan and the U.S. have been expanding and strengthening cooperation in a wide range of areas, including ballistic missiles defense, cyberspace, outer space, and maritime security. Japan and the U.S. have been working closely on the realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan, including the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Futenma and of approximately 9,000 U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa to Guam and other locations in order to mitigate the impact on local communities, including Okinawa, while maintaining the deterrence of the U.S. Forces in Japan.

(2) Japan-U.S. Security and Defense Cooperation in Various Fields

A Efforts Under the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation (the “Guidelines”)

The Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation announced at the April 2015 meeting of the Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (“2+2”), reviewed and updated the general framework and policy direction of the Japan-U.S. defense cooperation. Through the Alliance Coordination Mechanism (ACM) established under these Guidelines, Japan and the U.S. have shared information closely, established a common understanding of the situation, and provided “seamless” responses from peacetime to contingencies. In the “2+2” meeting held in August 2017, Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono, Minister of Defense Onodera, U.S. Secretary of State Tillerson and Secretary of Defense Mattis concurred on moving forward on identifying measures to further strengthen the Alliance, including through reviewing roles, missions, and capabilities of each country. At the same time, they reaffirmed the Alliance’s commitment to the security of Japan through the full range of capabilities, including U.S. nuclear forces. There have been active interpersonal exchange between high level-officials, with visits to Japan by Secretary of Defense Mattis in February, Commander of U.S. Pacific Command Admiral Harris in May and November, Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, General Dunford, and Commander of U.S. Strategic Command, General Hyten, in August, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, General Milley in September, Commander of United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces Korea,

General Brooks in November, and Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Richardson, in December. In addition, the Japan-U.S. Extended Deterrence Dialogue was held in June, in which Japan and the U.S. had candid discussions about ways to secure the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. Alliance. Through these multilayered efforts, Japan will continue to promote security and defense cooperation with the U.S., further enhancing the deterrence and response capabilities of the Alliance.

B Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD)

Japan has been making steady efforts to develop and engage in the production of the BMD system, such as the decision to introduce ground-deployed Aegis system (Aegis Ashore), while continuing cooperation with the U.S., which includes the steady implementation of joint development and joint production of the Standard Missile 3 (SM-3) Block IIA since 2006. Japan has been fully prepared to protect the lives and property of its citizens from the threat of ballistic missiles from North Korea under any circumstances.

C Cyberspace

The two countries held the fifth Japan-U.S. Cyber Dialogue in July in Tokyo. Based on the necessity for government-wide efforts by both Japan and the U.S., participants from both sides had a follow-up discussion on the outcome of the fourth dialogue held in July 2016. They also engaged in broad discussions on Japan-U.S. cooperation in cyberspace, including awareness about the situations, initiatives in both countries, cooperation in the international arena, and support for capacity building, and issued a joint press release after the dialogue.

D Outer Space

Japan and the U.S. have been discussing a wide range of cooperation on space at the Space Security Dialogue and the Japan-U.S.-Australia Space Security Dialogue. Japan and the U.S. will continue to cooperate on space security, including through mutual exchange of information in the field of Space Situational Awareness (SSA), and efforts to ensure the resiliency of space assets (i.e. the ability to maintain the function of facilities or systems required for the operation of the space system even during unforeseen circumstances).

E Trilateral Cooperation

Japan and the U.S. place importance on security and defense cooperation with allies and partners in the Asia-Pacific region. In particular, the two countries are steadily promoting trilateral cooperation with Australia, the ROK, and India. At the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting held in July and November as well as other meetings, the leaders affirmed that such trilateral cooperation promotes the shared security interests of Japan and the U.S., and contributes to improving the security environment in the Asia-Pacific region. Also, following the nuclear test and repeated ballistic missile launches by North Korea in September, the importance of the respective trilateral cooperation was reaffirmed at the Japan-U.S.-ROK and Japan-U.S.-Australia Summit Meetings and other meetings.

F Information Security

Information security plays a crucial role in advancing cooperation within the context of the alliance. In addition to the implementation of the government-wide security clearance system, the two countries

have been continuously discussing ways to further improve information security systems, including introducing and further enhancing counterintelligence measures (designed to prevent information leaks through espionage activities).

G Maritime Security

In fora such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit (EAS), Japan and the U.S. stress the importance of solving maritime issues in accordance with international law. The Guidelines announced in April 2015 also provide that Japan and the U.S. will cooperate closely with each other on measures to maintain maritime order in accordance with international law, including the freedom of navigation. Japan and the U.S. affirm their shared view and their cooperation on maritime security through various occasions including the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting held in February 2017.

(3) Realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan

In the joint statement issued by Japan and the United States in February 2017, the two Governments affirmed, for the first time in a document at the summit level, that constructing the Futenma Replacement Facility (FRF) at the Camp Schwab-Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution to avoid the continued use of MCAS Futenma. Furthermore, in the “2+2” joint statement in August, Japan and the U.S. reaffirmed their commitment to implement the existing arrangements, which aim to maintain operational and deterrent capability, while also mitigating the impact on local communities, and enhancing support from local communities for the presence and operations of U.S.

forces in Japan. Japan and the U.S. will also continue to work closely on the steady implementation of the relocation of approximately 9,000 U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to outside the country such as Guam, which will begin in the first half of the 2020s, and on the return of land south of Kadena based on the April 2013 “Consolidation Plan for Facilities and Areas in Okinawa.”

Following the return of a major portion of the Northern Training Area (NTA, approximately 3,987 hectares) in December 2016, the return of land along the eastern side of MCAS Futenma (approximately 4 hectares) was achieved on July 31, 2017, based on the “Implementation of Bilateral Plans for Consolidating Facilities and Areas in Okinawa” announced in December 2015. If the opening of the entire route of Ginowan City Municipal Road No. 11 were to be also realized, along with the said return, it could contribute to the alleviation of traffic congestion in the surrounding area, and to the improvement of the living environment in the local community of Ginowan City.

Additionally, relocation of carrier air wing squadrons from Naval Air Facility Atsugi to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni has commenced in August of 2017, based on the U.S.-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation of May 2006. This relocation is expected to contribute to mitigating the problem of noise and other issues that residents living near Naval Air Facility Atsugi, which is located in a densely populated area, have long tolerated. The Government of Japan will continue to make all efforts to mitigate impact on local communities, including Okinawa, so as to ensure stable stationing of U.S. forces in

Japan, including the relocation of MCAS Futenma to Henoko at the earliest possible time.

(4) Host Nation Support (HNS)

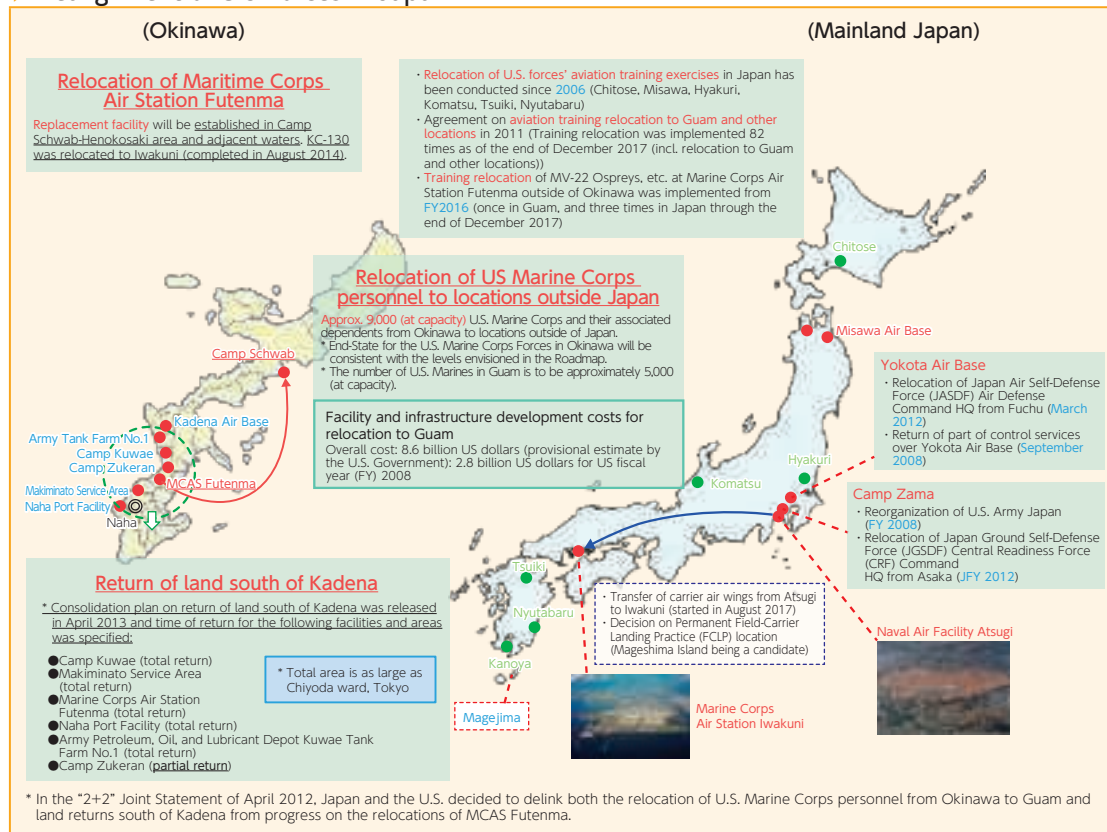
Under the security environment surrounding Japan, which is becoming increasingly severe, from the standpoint that it is important to ensure smooth and effective operation of the U.S. Forces, Japan (USFJ) Japan bears the rent for USFJ facilities and areas and the Facility Improvement Program (FIP) funding stipulated within the scope of the Status of U.S. Forces Agreement. In addition to this, under the special measures agreements, Japan also bears labor costs, utility costs, and training relocation costs for USFJ.

Based on the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) and special measures agreement that came into force on 1 April 2016, the Government of Japan bears Host Nation Support (HNS) from FY2016 to FY2020.

(5) Various Issues Related to the Presence of U.S. Forces in Japan

To ensure the smooth and effective operation of the Japan-U.S. security arrangements and the stable presence of USFJ as the linchpin of these arrangements, it is important to mitigate the impact of U.S. Forces’ activities on residents living in the vicinity and to gain their understanding and support regarding the presence of U.S. Forces. In particular, the importance of promoting mitigation of the impact on Okinawa, where U.S. Forces facilities and areas are concentrated, has been confirmed mutually between Japan and the U.S. on numerous occasions, including President Trump’s visit to Japan in November 2017.

► Realignment of U.S. forces in Japan



While continuing to work towards the realignment of U.S. forces in Japan, Japan has been making its utmost efforts to make improvements in specific issues in light of the requests of local communities such as preventing incidents and accidents involving U.S. forces, abating the noise by U.S. forces aircraft, and dealing with environmental issues within USFJ facilities and areas.

In response to the murder by a civilian component of the USFJ in Okinawa in April 2016, through the steady implementation of a supplementary agreement concerning the civilian component of the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which was signed and entered into force in January 2017, it is expected that Japan-U.S. cooperation is further promoted, and

recurrence of incidents and accidents by civilian components is prevented through strengthening the management over the civilian components of USFJ. This supplementary agreement supplements and clarifies the scope of the civilian component set forth in SOFA through the form of an international agreement, and this was the second time that a supplementary agreement to the SOFA had been drawn up, following from the Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Stewardship concluded in 2015.

(6) United Nations Command (UNC) and U.S. Forces in Japan

As the Korean War broke out in June 1950, United Nations Command (UNC) was established in July of the same year

based on UN Security Council Resolution 83 and Resolution 84. Following the ceasefire agreement concluded in July 1953, UNC Headquarters was relocated to Seoul in July 1957, and UNC (Rear) was established in Japan. UNC (Rear) placed in Yokota Air Base currently has a stationed commander and three other staff and military attaches from eight countries who are stationed at embassies in Tokyo as liaison officers for UNC.

Based on Article 5 of the Agreement Regarding the Status of the United Nations Forces in Japan, UNC may use the U.S. Forces' facilities and areas in Japan to the minimum extent required to provide support for military logistics for UNC. At present, UNC is authorized to use the following seven facilities: Camp Zama, U.S. Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, U.S. Fleet Activities, Sasebo, Yokota Air Base, Kadena Air Base, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, and White Beach Area.

3 Global Security

(1) Regional Security

The security environment surrounding the Asia-Pacific region is becoming increasingly severe due to various reasons such as the shift in the global power balance. Meanwhile, it would be difficult to say that the framework of regional security cooperation is sufficiently institutionalized because of the diversity of political, economic and social systems in the region. Therefore, Japan makes efforts to realize a regional security environment desirable for Japan, by strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance, and by combining bilateral and multilateral security cooperation at multiple levels mainly in the Asia-Pacific region. Japan has also unveiled a “Free

and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy” from the perspective of promoting the stability and prosperity of the extensive region stretching from the Asia-Pacific Ocean, passing through the Indian Ocean, to the Middle East and Africa, by treating this region as an integrated whole and securing the free and open international maritime order in the Indo-Pacific.

Japan is working to further strengthen deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, as well as to enhance security cooperation with various other countries other than the U.S. In relation to the Republic of Korea, based on the recognition that closer cooperation between Japan and the ROK is crucial considering the growing threat posed by North Korea, Japan, the U.S., and the ROK have carried out the ballistic missile information sharing exercise as well as anti-submarine warfare exercise. Furthermore, the two countries frequently hold summit meetings and foreign ministerial meetings, and affirm that they will work closely together between Japan and the ROK, as well as between Japan, the U.S., and the ROK. In relation to Australia, at the seventh Japan-Australia Foreign and Defence Ministerial Consultations (“2+2”) held in April, the two countries have confirmed to further enhance Japan-Australia security and defense cooperation, as well as strengthening cooperation in addressing various issues which the region faces. At Summit Meetings held in January and November 2017 and January 2018, they also affirmed continuous cooperation to achieve the peace and stability of the Indo-Pacific region. In relation to India, at the Japan-India “2+2” Vice-Ministerial Dialogue held in March and the Japan-India Summit Meetings held in

July, September and November, the two countries shared the view that they will work together towards the realization of free, open, and stable oceans, as well as regional stability and prosperity, which are the common goals, by coordinating Japan's "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy" and India's "Act East" policy. In relation to the UK, at the Japan-UK Summit Meeting held in August and the third Japan-UK Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting ("2+2") held in December, the two countries committed to elevating the Japan-UK security partnership to the next level, and shared the view to materialize cooperation towards the realization of a free and open Indo-Pacific region. In relation to France, a joint exercise by Japan, France, the UK, and the U.S. was conducted in May during the French naval fleet's visit to Japan as a part of "the Mission Jeanne d'Arc 2017." In addition, the fourth Japan-France Foreign and Defense Ministers' Meeting ("2+2") was held in January 2018, during which the two countries reached a broad agreement on the ACSA. In relation to ASEAN Member States, through such efforts as providing patrol vessels, Japan continuously supports the efforts towards enhancing the maritime capabilities of the Philippines, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Indonesia, and other countries.

In addition to strengthening bilateral cooperative relations mentioned above, Japan has also been promoting cooperation in the following frameworks to build a network for peace and prosperity in the region: the Japan-Australia-India Trilateral Dialogue Senior Officials Meeting (April and December), the Japan-U.S.-ROK Trilateral Summit Meeting (July and September), the Japan-U.S.-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting (February, April, and August

2017, and January 2018), the Japan-U.S.-Australia Trilateral Ministerial Strategic Dialogue (August), the Japan-U.S.-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting (September), the Japan-U.S.-Australia Summit Meeting (November), and the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Consultations at the level of senior officials of diplomatic authorities (November).

Furthermore, it is also important to enhance the relationships of trust with China and Russia for the stability of the security environment surrounding Japan. The Japan-China relationship is one of the most important bilateral relationships, and Japan is striving to develop stable relations of friendship and cooperation from a broad perspective, under the "Mutually Beneficial Relationship Based on Common Strategic Interests." As China's military trend is a major concern for Japan, Japan is making efforts to build multilayered channels for dialogue and exchanges in the field of security with China, including the Japan-China Security Dialogue held in October. Alongside with such efforts to communicate effectively in the policy aspect, Japan is also encouraging China to improve transparency. At the same time, Japan is striving to improve mutual relations of trust through high-level dialogues, including between leaders and foreign ministers. Regarding the Japan-Russia relations, while holding political dialogues at various levels, including four Summit Meetings and five Foreign Ministers' Meetings held in 2017, Japan has been energetically continuing negotiations with Russia with the aim of resolving the issue of the attribution of the Four Northern Islands and concluding a peace treaty. In the area of security, the Japan-Russia "2+2" Ministerial Meeting took place in

March. Discussions were also held between their security authorities in September and December. The two countries held candid discussions on defense and security on the occasion of the visits to Japan by Colonel General Salyukov, Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces of Russia, in November, and by General Gerasimov, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, in December.

Furthermore, Japan held the 4th Politico-Military (PM) Dialogue with Cambodia (July), the 3rd PM Dialogue with Indonesia (July), the 16th PM Dialogue with the UK (November), the 10th PM Dialogue with Canada (December), and the 20th PM Dialogue with France (December) respectively. Japan also held the 2nd Security Dialogue with Laos (July) and the 15th Security Dialogue with China (October) as well as the 4th Politico-Military-Security Dialogue with Mongolia (August), and the 15th High-Level Consultations with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (May).

In addition, Japan has actively participated in and contributed to multilateral frameworks in the region, including the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in order to strengthen security cooperation in the region. Among these, the ARF aims at improving the security environment of the Asia-Pacific region through dialogues and cooperation on political and security issues. The ARF is an important security dialogue framework in which various entities including North Korea and the EU participate. It is also an important forum in promoting security cooperation in which it focuses on confidence building through

various initiatives. In August, the 24th ARF Ministerial Meeting was held, where participating Ministers candidly exchanged views mainly on regional and international affairs, including the South China Sea and North Korea. As the number of cyberattacks is growing rapidly worldwide and cybersecurity has become increasingly important, it is essential to make greater collective efforts on cybersecurity including through the framework of the ARF as well. From this viewpoint, Japan, together with Malaysia and Singapore, proposed the establishment of ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting (ISM) on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies. This establishment was approved unanimously. Japan is making a proactive contribution through, for example, taking a leading role as a co-chair in the Inter-Sessional Meeting (ISM) on Maritime Security (from summer 2014 to summer 2017). In this regard, Japan hosted the 9th ISM on Maritime Security in Tokyo in February 2017.

Furthermore, in addition to government-to-government dialogues (track 1), Japan actively utilizes frameworks where participants from both public and private sectors (track 1.5) exchange opinions and explain their security policies. Japan participates in various conferences, including the IISS Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue) (Singapore). Also Foreign Minister Kono attended the Regional Security Summit (Manama Dialogue) (Bahrain) in December as well as the Munich Security Conference (Germany) in February 2018, as a part of Japan's efforts to promote other countries' understanding of Japan's security policies, and to facilitate cooperation and confidence-building in the

region.

(2) Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

A On-the-Ground Initiatives

(A) UN Peacekeeping Operations (UN PKOs)

Traditionally, UN PKOs are positioned between parties to a dispute, and by monitoring ceasefires and the withdrawal of troops, they help calm the situation or prevent the recurrence of hostilities with the aim to support the settlement of the dispute through dialogue between the parties involved. However, following the changes in the international environment since the end of the Cold War, including an increase in civil wars, UN PKOs have multifaceted mandates in addition to its traditional mandates such as monitoring of ceasefires. These new mandates include support in Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) of ex-combatants, security sector reform, elections, human rights, and the rule of law as well as the promotion of the political process and the protection of civilians. As of the end of 2017, 15 UN PKO missions were deployed, primarily in the Middle East and Africa, with a total of over 100,000 military, police and civilian personnel deployed to these missions. In response to the increasing complexity and scale of the mandates and the associated shortages of personnel, equipment, and financial resources, discussions on more effective and efficient implementation of UN PKOs are underway in various fora, primarily within the UN.

Based on the Act on Cooperation with UN Peacekeeping Operations and Other Operations (PKO Act), Japan has dispatched more than 12,500 personnel to a total of 27 missions including UN PKO since 1992.

More recently, Japanese staff officers have been dispatched to the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) since 2011, while the engineering units have been dispatched there since 2012. The engineering units in the South Sudanese capital of Juba and the surrounding areas have undertaken such activities as developing infrastructure such as roads, supporting displaced persons through the provision of water supplies, as well as site preparation, and concluded their activities in May 2017. On the other hand, four SDF officers are currently still on active duty at the UNMISS Headquarters. Japan will continue to contribute in various ways to peace and stability in South Sudan. Under the banner of “proactive contribution to peace,” building on the past experiences of peacekeeping operations and making use of its own strengths, Japan will also continue to contribute proactively in the field of international peace cooperation in the future such as through dispatching units and individuals, as well as enhancing capacity building.

(B) ODA and other Cooperation to Facilitate Peacebuilding

Japan attaches importance to peacebuilding as part of its international cooperation and it is positioned as one of the priority issues in Japan's Development Cooperation Charter.

In the area of coping with humanitarian crises, it is also effective to combine coordination between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation, with peacebuilding. It is important to drastically enhance measures to address the root causes of conflict, not only by taking post-conflict responses but by focusing more on the prevention of conflicts and their

recurrence through nation-building and social stabilization measures during times of peace. Japan places great importance on such “humanitarian, development and peace nexus,” and has been providing support for peacebuilding particularly in the following countries and regions.

(1) Middle East

Based on the Kono Four Principles and the five new initiatives unveiled in September 2017, at the 13th Manama Dialogue held in December 2017, Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono announced that Japan will be providing fresh aid of about 21 million US dollars for humanitarian assistance efforts in Syria and the surrounding countries, as Japan’s continued support to countries that have been affected by the fight against ISIL and other conflicts.

(2) Africa

Japan has consistently implemented measures towards the realization of peaceful and stable Africa that does not generate violent extremism and took up the theme of “promoting social stability for shared prosperity” as one of the priority areas of the TICAD VI Nairobi Declaration. During the UN General Assembly held in September 2017, Prime Minister Abe announced that Japan had provided approximately 23.3 billion Japanese yen towards efforts to promote social stability, including vocational training for more than

16,000 people since 2016 on various issues related to peace and stability in Africa. The leaders of the African countries present at the same UN General Assembly expressed their appreciation for Japan’s support.

For instance, since 2014, Japan has provided training for human resources in the field of criminal justice in eight French-speaking countries of Africa, contributing to human resource development and capacity building in these countries. In September 2017, Japan also provided support for strengthening of security maintenance systems of the state police force of Liberia, with the aim of realizing fair and equitable presidential and lower house elections in the country.

Furthermore, Japan has been providing support to PKO training centers operated by African countries since 2007, and the amount of its assistance totals more than 45 million US dollars for facilities in 13 countries by 2017.



Criminal justice training for French-speaking African countries (February 13, 2018, Cote d'Ivoire; Photo: JICA)

Special Feature

Cooperation in Peacekeeping Operations (PKO)**International Peace Cooperation**

2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Act on Cooperation with United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and Other Operations (PKO Act). Under the Act, Japan has made a considerable number of personnel and in-kind contributions to UN peacekeeping operations, international humanitarian relief operations, and international election observation operations. Japan's efforts have been highly regarded by the international community.



SDF units carrying out road repairs between Juba and Mangalla (South Sudan) Photo: Ministry of Defense

Specifically, over the past 25 years, Japan has dispatched more than 12,500 personnel on 27 missions including those in Cambodia, Timor-Leste, the Golan Heights and Haiti under severe environments. Japanese personnel have maintained discipline and worked actively to realize peace and stability in the world by utilizing advanced technological capabilities.

More recently, Japan has contributed to nation-building efforts in South Sudan, by dispatching Self Defense Force (SDF) engineering units to the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS). At the end of May 2017, the SDF engineering units dispatched to UNMISS completed their five year long activities which included repair of roads and building of facilities for internally displaced persons. This has been the largest achievement by the Japanese PKO engineering missions. Furthermore, a Cabinet decision was made to enable the 11th engineering unit to come to the aid of individuals engaging in activities related to UN peacekeeping operations, upon urgent request, and authorized the unit to use weapons for joint protection of camps. This carries great significance in the history of Japan's PKO. Currently, four SDF officials are continuing to contribute to UNMISS activities as staff officers in the headquarters.

Support for Capacity Building, and Human Resource Development

Japan has also been supporting peacekeepers from various countries participating in PKOs to enhance their capacities. The support includes financial contributions and the dispatch of instructors to the UN Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities and PKO Training Centers in Asian and African countries.

Japan also cooperates on projects to nurture civilian experts with the capability to work in the fields of peacebuilding. Over the past 10 years, 643 experts have completed their training, and now play an active role in the field worldwide.

In addition to the dispatch and development of human resources, Japan also provides support for peace building initiatives by the United Nations, such as funding for the development and roll-out of e-learning program to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by UN PKO personnel, and contributing to a trust fund that should assist SEA victims. Going forward, Japan will put further effort into international peace initiatives.



Ceremony for the end of the course, ARDEC (conferment of certificates of completion)

Contributing to Peace in the Future

In our world today, no country can secure peace solely through its own efforts. Various conflicts are occurring around the world, and challenges that transcend national borders, such as terrorism, refugees, and poverty, are becoming increasingly serious. Japan, as a responsible member of the international community, continues to contribute to peace and stability in the world with its capabilities and responsibility.

B Initiatives within the UN

Many regional conflicts and civil wars are rekindled even after the conflict has ended. Hence, it is extremely important to provide appropriate support in the post-conflict period. Based on this understanding, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was established in 2005 with the aim of offering advice on integrated support, from conflict resolution to recovery, reintegration, and reconstruction. Japan has served as a member since its establishment, and contributed to its activities as the chair from 2006 to 2008 and also as the chair of PBC Working Group on Lessons Learned from 2011 to 2015.

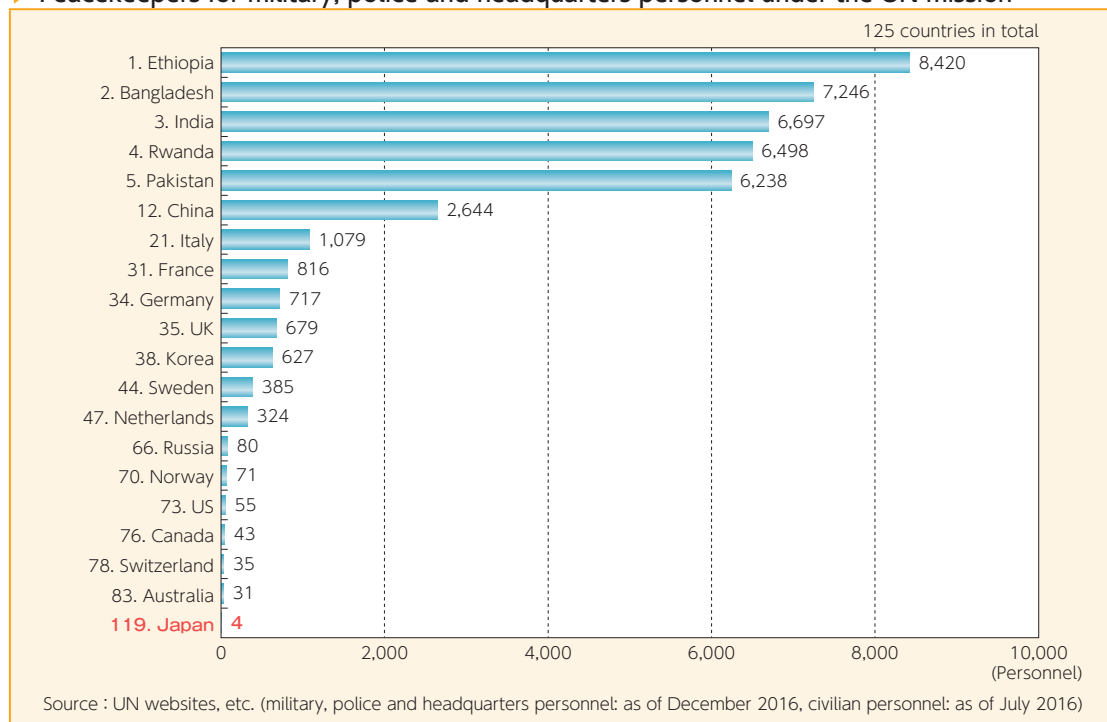
Two resolutions were adopted in April 2016: the UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/70/262) on the “Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture” including the PBC, and the UN Security

Council Resolution 2282. These resolutions recommended the improvement of the efficiency and flexibility of the PBC, along with the strengthening of cooperation between the PBC and the UN Security Council as well as other organizations. In response, the PBC launched a new initiative in 2017 to implement these resolutions, and there have been continued discussions to identify priority issues and formulate peacebuilding strategies in the five original agenda countries⁶.

As one of its new initiatives, the PBC designated focal points (countries in charge) to take the lead in five thematic discussions (institution-building, youths, gender, financing for peacebuilding, and national ownership). Japan has been appointed as the focal point for institution-building. In addition to the thematic discussions, Japan also hosts meetings on countries and

⁶ Five countries of Burundi, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, Central African Republic, and Liberia. Meetings on Guinea have not been convened in the recent years, and in July, the PBC made the decision to terminate the meetings on Guinea.

► Peacekeepers for military, police and headquarters personnel under the UN mission



regions apart from the countries on the PBC agenda, and contributes to improving the flexibility and efficiency of the PBC. Japan is also involved in efforts within the PBC to strengthen cooperative relationships with the World Bank and the African Union (AU).

In September 2016, Japan announced its aim to allocate 10 million US dollars as its initiative to contribute proactively to the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). As of December 2017, Japan has contributed a total of 48.5 million US dollars (2.5 million US dollars in 2017) and ranks sixth among the major donor countries.

㊦ Human Resource Development

(1) The Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development

While civilian experts with a high level of skill and expertise have a substantial

role to play in the field of post-conflict peacebuilding, the number of those who are capable of fulfilling the role are insufficient, and consequently, the development of personnel has become a major challenge. Japan has been implementing programs for human resource development in order to cultivate civilian experts who can play a leading role in the field of peacebuilding and development. As of the end of the FY2017, a total of about 730 people have been trained. The trainees who completed the programs have gone on to play an active role in the field of peacebuilding and development worldwide in such countries as South Sudan and Afghanistan, and have received high acclaim from both the UN and other countries.

In the FY2017 program, training courses for younger personnel, as well as training courses for mid-career practitioners and one-to-one career development support,

were implemented.

(2) Training for United Nations Peacekeepers

Japan has been supporting peacekeepers from various countries participating in UN PKOs to enhance their capabilities. Since 2015, Japan has dispatched 83 JSDF instructors for training approximately 130 future engineering personnel from five countries in East Africa that have expressed their intention to dispatch engineering units to UN PKOs (the UN Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities). These instructors have conducted training on the operation of heavy engineering equipment, including training for full-scale operation of those equipments. Japan has also provided support for the UN Signals Academy, with the aim of facilitating the implementation of effective training for the signals units of UN PKOs in Africa. Japan also engages in dispatching instructors and other personnel to PKO Training Centers in Asia and African nations.

(3) Initiatives to Combat Security Threats

A Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism Measures

In 2017, terrorist incidents occurred around the world, including the shooting at a nightclub in Istanbul (January), bombing in Manchester (May), attack by a vehicle driven deliberately into crowds in Barcelona (August), and the terrorist incident on the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt (November).

While operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) carried out in Iraq and Syria had effectively reduced the areas dominated by ISIL, the threat of terrorism is spreading as a

result of the return or relocation of foreign terrorist fighters to their home countries or to third countries. In particular, the threat of terrorism is growing in Asia.

At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in 2016, Japan took the lead in formulating the “G7 Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism.” The Plan stressed the importance of the following points: (1) Concrete counter-terrorism measures including the utilization of Interpol databases and passenger name records (PNR); (2) Promoting tolerance through dialogues aimed at preventing violent extremism; and (3) Support for capacity-building in developing countries. At the G7 Taormina Summit held in 2017, the full implementation of this Action Plan was affirmed, and Japan has been steadily moving forward on its implementation. Specifically, it has supplied equipment and conducted training for law-enforcement authorities, etc. in the areas of capacity building for border control including airport security, improving the investigation and prosecution capabilities of security personnel, and measures to counter terrorist financing including money-laundering and organized crime. In the aspect of countering violent extremism measures, Japan has been focused on the implementation of measures to counter violent extremism, which is the root cause of terrorism. This includes, in particular, community support at the grassroots level such as promotion of interfaith dialogue and empowering women and youths. Regionally, Japan places its emphasis on Asia. In particular, as one of the initiatives to strengthen comprehensive countering terrorism measures in the Asia region, Japan announced at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in 2016 that it

will provide support of 45 billion Japanese yen and develop 2,000 personnel in the next three years. Japan is now steadily implementing this support initiative.

In 2017, Japan held counter-terrorism consultations with ASEAN, the U.S., Australia, India, and Pakistan, and affirmed its commitment towards strengthening cooperation and exchanging information on terrorism situation.

Japan has also held a workshop inviting officials from Asian countries as well as international organizations who are in charge of public security and correctional policy. At this workshop, participants had active discussions on the approaches for effective assistance and cooperation to counter-terrorism and violent extremism in Japan and other countries. Besides the lecture-style workshop, Japan arranged on-site visits to Japanese private enterprises to show the relevant technologies which can be applied to counter-terrorism measures in other countries. As another initiative, Japan has continued the invitation program for Islamic school teachers over ten years and arranged inter-faith dialogue, cultural visits and school visits for the participants. Japan will continue to implement such initiatives moving forward, in order to contribute to promote moderation.

With regard to initiatives implemented through international organizations, Japan has contributed about 46 million U.S. dollars (supplementary budget for FY2016) to international organizations and funds, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), thereby providing support for individual projects to counter-terrorism and violent extremism through these

organizations.

B Criminal Justice Initiatives

The UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are the core bodies in shaping policy on crime prevention and criminal justice in the international community. At the 26th Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) held in May, an agreement was reached to establish the overall theme for the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice that will be held in Japan in April 2020, as “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.” The cabinet also approved the convention of this UN Congress in Kyoto. Furthermore, Japan is also engaged in initiatives to improve prosecution capabilities in Southeast Asia, by funding the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund of the UNODC. With regard to measures against cybercrime, Japan provides support through initiatives such as organizing a capacity building workshop for law-enforcement authorities from ASEAN countries, in cooperation with the UNODC and with financial contributions from the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF).

Furthermore, in July, Japan concluded the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), in order to prevent transnational organized crime including terrorism more effectively, and to promote cooperation to fight against such crime, by establishing a global legal framework to tackle this problem (See “Special Feature: Conclusion of the UN Convention against Transnational

Organized Crime (UNTOC)").

C Anti-corruption Measures

In July, Japan concluded the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), which sets out provisions for international cooperation and measures to tackle acts of corruption, such as bribery and embezzlement of property by public officials. Japan has been conducting training to strengthen the investigation and prosecution capabilities of the authorities in developing countries that are responsible for corruption cases, through contributing to UNODC, with the aim of promoting the implementation of UNCAC. Japan has contributed approximately 90,000 U.S. dollars through the UNODC towards the operation of UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism, which monitors the status of implementation of UNCAC in countries that are party to the convention.

Within the context of the G20, Japan was involved in the formulation of deliverables, including the High Level Principles on the Liability of Legal Persons for Corruption through the activities of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group.

The OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) Working Group on Bribery monitors the "Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions" to prevent and combat the bribery of foreign public officials. Japan is an active participant in this program. Japan has also supported the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative promoted jointly by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the OECD as part of its contributions toward enhancing anti-corruption measures in the region.

D Measures to Combat Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism

In terms of measures to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an international framework that has been leading global discussions concerning the international standards that countries should implement, as well as examining measures from new perspectives. As a founding member, Japan has actively participated in these discussions. In recent years, the FATF has fulfilled a certain role in preventing the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In November, in response to repeated nuclear tests and missile launches by North Korea, member jurisdictions unanimously adopted the FATF statement that calls for the eradication of illegal financial activities by North Korea.

Japan provides assistance to Iran and other countries in ASEAN and the Sahel region in areas such as the development of legal systems, in cooperation with the UNODC to promote international efforts to disrupt money laundering and stem the flow of funds to terrorists.

E Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons

Japan has strengthened its domestic mechanisms to combat trafficking in persons, and also proactively provides assistance to developing countries, based on "Japan's 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons." This Action Plan was developed in order to effectively tackle trafficking in persons, which involves increasingly sophisticated and latent methods. In July, Japan became a party to

Special Feature

Conclusion of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)

On July 11, Japan concluded the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC).

What is the UNTOC?

The UNTOC is a convention adopted at the UN General Assembly in November 2000 in order to effectively address the rapidly growing complexity and severity of transnational organized crime. It was formulated in response to heightened awareness among the respective countries of the vital need not only to strengthen the criminal justice systems in their own countries, but also for the international community to work together to tackle this crime effectively.

This Convention aims to prevent transnational organized crime, including terrorism, more effectively, and to establish an international legal framework to promote cooperation to combat this crime.

Japan's Efforts toward the Conclusion of UNTOC

Japan signed the UNTOC at the conference held in Palermo, Italy, in December 2000 for the signing and ratification of the Convention, and received the approval of the Diet on the conclusion of the Convention in May 2003. However, as an implementing legislation for this Convention had not been established, it took a long time for Japan to finally conclude the Convention.

During this period, most countries and regions in the world became parties to the Convention and engaged in international cooperation based on it. Countries that had not yet concluded the Convention were repeatedly requested to do so at the relevant UN Resolutions and G7/G8 Summits.

In addition to this international situation, Japan has been also preparing for the Rugby World Cup in 2019 and the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2020. Hence, in order to prevent Japan from becoming a “loophole” for transnational organized crime including terrorism, the implementing legislation for this Convention, which is the Amended Act on Punishment of Organized Crimes and Control of Crime Proceeds (also referred as “the Act on Punishment of the Preparation of Acts of Terrorism and Other Organized Crimes”), passed the Diet in June 2017. With the enforcement of this Act, Japan concluded UNTOC in July, becoming the 188th party to the Convention (as of December, the number of countries and regions that are parties to the Convention is 189).

Effects of the Conclusion of UNTOC

The conclusion of UNTOC accelerates and enhances mutual legal assistance in investigations and the transfer of criminals between the countries that are parties to the Convention, enables more effective cooperation with the international community, including in the collection of information, and makes it possible for countries that are party to the Convention to deal with transnational organized crime including terrorism. Taking the opportunity of the conclusion of UNTOC, Japan is working more closely with the international community in efforts to further strengthen measures against crime.



Ambassador Minami depositing the instruments of acceptance of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) with the UN Secretary-General (July 11, New York, U.S.)

the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, which was drawn up with the aim of strengthening international cooperation to protect victims and prevent as well as fight against human trafficking. This further deepened Japan's cooperation with the respective foreign governments towards the eradication of human trafficking. Furthermore, in view that human trafficking is being carried out in recent years as a means of acquiring fighters or financing for terrorist organizations, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2388 (Trafficking of Persons in Conflict Situation) unanimously in November, and Japan declared its strong solidarity with the international community to combat this new threat.

In the respect of cooperation with international organizations, in 2017, Japan has continued to provide assistance for the repatriation and social rehabilitation program for foreign victims of trafficking in persons protected in Japan, through funding to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Japan also funded training programs to law-enforcement

authorities in Southeast Asian countries through projects organized by the UNODC.

F Measures to Combat Illicit Drug Trafficking

At the 60th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) held in March, Japan supported holding the Convention of a High-Level Ministerial Meeting in 2019, which is the target year for the achievement of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, formulated in 2009. Japan also explained its efforts to reduce demand and supply of drugs as a follow-up to the UN General Assembly Special Sessions (UNGASS) on the World Drug Problem held in April 2016. In the field of international cooperation, Japan works in cooperation with the UNODC to investigate and analyze synthetic drugs such as amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances in the Asia-Pacific region, provide support for improving container control capacity of

regulatory authorities at air and sea ports, and put in place measures against illicit drugs trafficking that are spreading across borders. In relation to Afghanistan, which is the world's largest region for the illegal cultivation of opium poppy, Japan has contributed 5 million U.S. dollars to the UNODC and provides active support for initiatives by the respective countries in the region, in order to strengthen border controls, promote alternative development to drug crop cultivation, and enhance capacity building of narcotics agents in cooperation with the neighboring countries.

(4) The Oceans and Seas

Japan is a maritime nation that has achieved economic growth through maritime trade and development of marine resources, and has pursued "Free, Open and Stable Seas." For Japan, maritime rights and interests, which are the basis for economic survival, including the freedom of navigation and overflight, and development of marine resources, are of great importance toward securing peace and security. To ensure these maritime rights and interests in the long-term and in a stable manner, it is indispensable to maintain a maritime order and ensure safe maritime transport.

Furthermore, "Free, Open and Stable Seas," which are upheld by a maritime order governed by law and rules and not by force, are essential for peace and prosperity not only of Japan, but also of the international community as a whole. To maintain and develop "Free, Open and Stable Seas," Japan advocates the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy," and contributes actively to maintaining and strengthening maritime order and ensuring safe maritime transport.

However, in recent years, there has been an increasing number of cases where the interests of countries clash with each other from the perspective of securing resources and national security. In particular, in the seas of Asia, there has been an increasing number of cases of tension arising from friction between countries, and the international community is closely monitoring these cases with much interest. Against this background, based on the recognition that it is necessary to fully uphold the "Three Principles of the Rule of Law at Sea" (See 3-1-6 (2)) advocated by Prime Minister Abe at the Shangri-La Dialogue in May 2014, a Leaders' Communique was released at the G7 Taormina Summit (Italy) in May 2017. This Communique contains a strong message to the international community on aspects of maritime security, such as the maintenance of a rules-based order in the maritime domain based on the principles of international law. At the Third G7 High-Level Meeting on Maritime Security held in Rome in November, Japan disseminated information about its initiatives on maritime security, including maintaining and strengthening a free and open maritime order based on the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific region. Furthermore, outside the framework of the G7, Japan has also utilized fora that are related to the East Asia Summit (EAS), including the ARF Inter Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security and the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF), to actively show the importance of "Free, Open and Stable Seas" and disseminate Japan's stance and initiatives in the area of maritime security.

Combining various assistances including Official Development Assistance (ODA) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, capacity

building assistance by the Ministry of Defense, Self-Defense Forces and the Japan Coast Guard, defense equipment and technology cooperation, and Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), Japan seamlessly supports coastal states mainly in Asia and Africa to enhance maritime law enforcement capabilities through providing patrol vessels, technical cooperation and human resource development, among other forms of assistance. In this way, Japan has been contributing to establishing and promoting the rule of law at sea.

A Order at Sea

(A) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and Related Japanese Initiatives

Also known as the “Constitution for the Seas,” UNCLOS is the very basis of a maritime order governed by law and rules. The Convention comprehensively provides principles governing uses of the sea, including the freedom of navigation and overflight over the high seas. It also stipulates the rights and obligations under international law on the development of marine resources and so on. Furthermore, this Convention led to the establishment of international organizations such as the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), and the International Seabed Authority (ISA). This Convention has been ratified by 167 countries including Japan (including some not recognized by Japan) and by the EU. As a leading maritime nation, Japan regards a maritime order, with the Convention at the core, as the cornerstone to ensure Japan’s maritime rights and interests and to facilitate maritime activities. As such,

Japan actively contributes to discussions at conferences including the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention and to the activities by international organizations in order to ensure that the Convention will be even more widely applied and implemented appropriately. Furthermore, Japan has done its utmost to build, maintain, and strengthen a maritime order under the Convention, by various means such as holding international symposiums on the law of the sea where eminent Japanese and foreign experts are invited (see 3-1-6).

(B) A Challenge to the Maritime Order and Response by Japan and International Community (see 1-1(2), 2-1-2(1) and 2-1-6)

a Situation surrounding the East China Sea

In the East China Sea, Chinese Government-owned vessels have continued to intrude into Japan’s territorial waters around the Senkaku Islands in 2017, and active operations by Chinese military vessels and aircraft have been observed. In addition, China has been continuing unilateral resource development in the Exclusive Economic Zone and on continental shelves in areas pending delimitation. In recent years, Japan has found the Chinese side conducted a number of research in the waters surrounding Japan such as the East China Sea. Many of the research were conducted without Japan’s consent or in a manner which Japan did not agree to. Given China’s continued attempts to change the status quo unilaterally in the East China Sea, Japan will carefully monitor the trends and movements around its air and sea spaces, continue to respond in a firm but calm manner while making claims that should be made, and at the same time, promote cooperation with the

relevant countries including the U.S. in order to achieve peace and stability in the East China Sea.

b Issues surrounding the South China Sea

In the South China Sea, China has been further conducting unilateral actions to change the status quo that increase tensions such as large-scale and rapid building of outposts as well as their use for military purposes, and attempts to create a fait accompli. Many countries including Japan have expressed concern over such China's actions. Until now, Japan has consistently supported the full enforcement of the rule of law in the South China Sea, and emphasized the importance for all the concerned parties related to the South China Sea to work towards peaceful settlement of disputes based on international law. With regard to dialogues between China and ASEAN concerning issues surrounding the South China Sea, Japan's stance is that the easing of tensions through such forward-looking initiatives should lead to non-militarization.

With regard to the arbitration proceedings based on UNCLOS concerning the conflict between the Philippines and China over the South China Sea, lodged by the Government of the Philippines, the Arbitral Tribunal made its final arbitral award on July 12, 2016. On the same day, Japan released a statement by the Foreign Minister. The statement explains that as the Tribunal's award is final and legally binding on the parties to the dispute under the provisions of UNCLOS, the parties to this case are required to comply with the award. Japan strongly expects that the parties' compliance with this award will eventually lead to the peaceful settlement of disputes in the South China Sea.

Japan has a high interest regarding the issues over the South China Sea as it relies on marine transportation for most of resources and energy, and attaches importance to the freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea, as well as security of sea lanes. Cooperation within the international community is of great importance to maintain and develop "Free, Open and Stable Seas." From this perspective, Japan supports the U.S. Freedom of Navigation Operations.

B Ensuring Safe Maritime Transport

Japan actively contributes to ensuring the freedom of navigation and overflight and safe maritime transport, through anti-piracy measures in Asia and Africa, as well as close partnership and cooperation with other countries.

(A) Anti-piracy Measures Off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden

a Current status of piracy and armed robbery cases

According to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the number of piracy and armed robbery cases (hereinafter referred to as "piracy cases") off the coast of Somalia and the Gulf of Aden was 237 at its peak in 2011, but has since been on a decline, dropping to the low levels of zero in 2015, two in 2016, and nine in 2017. Despite sustained efforts in maritime law enforcement activities by the navies of the respective countries, and the implementation of self-defense measures by the merchant ships of each country, the root causes giving rise to piracy off the coast of Somalia remain unresolved. Thus, pirates off the coast of Somalia still have



Uotsurijima of the Senkaku Islands (Photo: Office of Policy Planning and Coordination on Territory and Sovereignty, Cabinet Secretariat)



Fishing vessels gathering together (Taken on August 6, 2016; Photo: Japan Coast Guard)

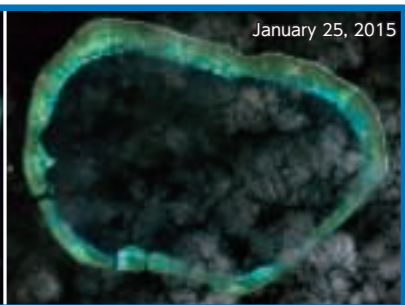
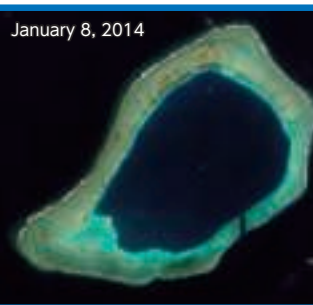


Chinese Government-owned vessels and fishing vessels (Taken on August 6, 2016; Photo: Japan Coast Guard)

Fiery Cross Reef

Subi Reef

Mischief Reef



Source: <http://amti.csis.org/> etc.

the intention and capability to carry out acts of piracy, and the situation requires caution.

b Extension of anti-piracy operations and record of escort activities

Since 2009, Japan has been conducting anti-piracy operations, without any interruption to the operations even once, by deploying Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyers (with coast guard officers on board) and P-3C maritime patrol aircraft to the Gulf of Aden. On November 2, 2017, the Government of Japan decided to continue anti-piracy operations based on the Act on Punishment and Countermeasures against Piracy for another year. The deployed destroyers protected 72 merchant ships on 43 escort operations between January and December 2017, while the P-3C maritime patrol aircraft carried out 243 mission flights, in which they conducted surveillance, information gathering and provided information to naval vessels of other countries.

c Promotion of international cooperation in anti-piracy measures

Japan has been making multi-layered efforts, including support for enhancement of maritime law enforcement capacity of Somalia and neighboring countries as well as for stability of Somalia, in order to solve root causes of piracy off the coast of Somalia. Japan has assisted the establishment of Information Sharing Centres in Yemen, Kenya, and Tanzania, as well as the construction of a training center (DRTC) in Djibouti for capacity building of the region, through contributing 14.6 million US dollars to a fund established by the IMO. Moreover, Japan has contributed 4.5 million US dollars

to an international trust fund managed by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), through which it assists Somalia and neighboring countries in improving courts and training judicial officers, as well as repatriation to Somalia of those found guilty of piracy in the neighboring countries including Seychelles. In December 2015, Japan provided two patrol vessels to the Djibouti Coast Guard, to which the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has extended technical assistance for capacity building. In October 2017, a seminar on maritime security, co-hosted by Japan and France, was held at DRTC. With a view to promoting stability in Somalia, Japan has provided a total of 456.3 million US dollars since 2007 aimed at supporting improvement in basic services, improvement in public security through support for the police, and revitalization of domestic economy through vocational training and job creation, among other measures.

(B) Anti-piracy Measures in Asia

To encourage regional cooperation in the fight against piracy cases in Asia, Japan was at the forefront of efforts to formulate the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), which entered into force in 2006. Each of the contracting parties provides information and cooperates on piracy cases in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and other regions, via the Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP-ISC) established in Singapore under the Agreement. Japan supports the activities of ReCAAP-ISC through personnel (dispatching the Executive Director and an Assistant Director) and

financial contributions. From September 30 to October 7, Japan, in cooperation with ReCAAP-ISC, organized the “Capacity Building Executive Programme on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia” in Tokyo, Kanagawa, and Hiroshima for participants from the ten ASEAN Member States. In addition, efforts by Japan to counter piracy in Asia, including support for improving maritime law enforcement capabilities of coastal countries and for improving surveillance capabilities, have been highly appraised internationally.

According to figures released by the IMB, the number of piracy cases in the seas of Southeast Asia was 76 in 2017. In recent years, there have been cases of crew abduction in the Sulu Sea and Celebes Sea in Southeast Asia, posing a threat to vessels navigating in these waters. In view of this situation, Japan announced at the East Asia Summit (EAS) held in November that it will provide steady support of 15 billion Japanese yen over two years towards the realization of “Asia resilient to terrorism,” through a comprehensive approach that takes the current situation into account and which aims to improve security in the southern part of the Philippines, the Sulu Sea, and the Celebes Sea. Based on this declaration of its support, Japan will continue to actively support capacity building for maritime safety.

(5) Cyber

Year by year, as cyberspace is becoming an essential platform for people’s socioeconomic activities, the scale and the influence of cyber attacks are expanding. In recent years in particular, the scale of DDoS (distributed denial of service) attacks

has reached an unprecedented level, and critical infrastructure has become the target of attacks. Thus, the threat of cyber attacks is becoming more serious.

Japan is no exception, and has been increasingly exposed to the cyber threats. For instance, the Japan Pension Service suffered a cyberattack in 2015, in which as many as 1.25 million cases of personal information were stolen. Furthermore, in May 2017, a large-scale cyberattack was carried out on about 150 countries and regions including Japan, through the illegal ransomware known as “WannaCry.” As the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 approaches, the cybersecurity issue is a matter of urgent priority for Japan.

Cyberattacks are characterized as being highly anonymous, advantageous to the attacker, less affected by geographical constraints and able to cross national borders easily. For these reasons, cyber security is an issue that is difficult for a single country to address alone. As such, coordination and cooperation of the international community are essential.

Against this backdrop, Japan has advanced its efforts that include contributing to the development of international rules, promoting cooperation and confidence-building measures with other countries, enhancing countermeasures against cybercrimes, and supporting capacity building, based on the “Cybersecurity Strategy” that was adopted by the Cabinet in September 2015.

In respect of developing international rules, from its standpoint that existing international law is applicable to cyber activities, Japan has taken active roles in discussions in the international community through the United Nations Group of

Governmental Experts (GGE) on cyberspace and other fora.

Regarding the promotion of cooperation and confidence-building measures with other countries, Japan has held consultations and dialogues with the countries and organizations such as the U.S., the UK, France, Australia, Israel, Estonia, India, Russia, Japan-China-ROK, EU, and ASEAN. In addition, at the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Ministerial Meeting held in August (Manila, the Philippines), Japan, together with Malaysia and Singapore, proposed the establishment of ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies. This proposal was approved at the Ministerial Meeting. Through these talks, Japan strives to exchange information about cyber-related policies and initiatives, deepens mutual understanding, enhances cooperation and fosters confidence-building measures with other countries. Furthermore, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Manabu Horii attended the Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) held in India in November, and delivered a speech about Japan's cyber diplomacy.

Regarding countermeasures against cybercrime, as the first member country in Asia of the "Convention on Cybercrime" (Budapest Convention), which is the only multilateral treaty on the use of cyberspace, Japan actively participates in its related conferences, and promotes efforts to expand the parties to the Convention, especially among Asia.

Due to the nature of cyberspace, the

lack of incident handling capacity of some countries and regions may pose a risk to the entire world. Therefore, capacity building support for developing countries is important for ensuring Japan's security as well. Japan has been providing support, including the capacity building of CSIRT (Computer Security Incident Response Team)⁷ and the relevant administrative agencies mainly in ASEAN countries. Based on the "Basic Strategy of Cybersecurity Capacity Building for Developing Countries" formulated by the Government as a whole in October, Japan will continue to provide strategic and efficient assistance on an All-Japan basis.

(6) Outer Space

In recent years, outer space has become congested due to the diversified use of outer space and increasing number of countries using space. In addition, increase of space debris caused by Anti-Satellite (ASAT) tests, collisions of satellites etc., has posed a growing risk to the sustainable and stable use of outer space.

In order to cope with this situation, Japan has been proactively participating in discussions on the rule-making for outer space with the aim of further establishing the rule of law. It also promotes dialogues and consultations on outer space with other countries to contribute to the efforts to ensure security in outer space.

Amid new technologies and services with regard to space utilization and applications, Japan proactively engages in space science and exploration such as the International Space Station (ISS), the

⁷ A general term which refers to a group to deal with computer security incidents. In order to minimize the damage caused by computer security incidents, they collect and analyze incident-related information, vulnerability information and predictive information of cyberattacks, consider solutions and measures, and cope with the incidents.

overseas development of Japanese space industry, resolution of global challenges by utilizing space technologies, and support for capacity building in the field of outer space in developing countries.

A Establishing the Rule of Law in Outer Space

Based on the environmental changes related to outer space, the international community has been discussing the necessity of formulating new rules for outer space. Japan has also been actively involved, and has contributed to these discussions with the aim of establishing the rule of law in outer space. It is important to restrict actions that create space debris such as ASAT tests and to formulate rules with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures (TCBM) which will promote information exchange on outer space activities between countries. From these points of view, Japan has actively participated in discussions on the peaceful use of outer space, including the International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities (ICOC) led by EU, and the development of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) Guidelines for the Long Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. Chiaki Mukai, Japan's first female astronaut, served as the chair at the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at the UNCOPUOS from January 2017.

B International Dialogues and Consultations on Outer Space

An increasing number of various bilateral and multilateral dialogues and consultations on outer space have been held with the aim of facilitating international cooperation and information sharing from a broad

perspective and promotion of international cooperation; reflecting the growing interest of the international community concerning outer space. Japan also promotes dialogues in the fields of security, science, and industry with major space-faring nations and other countries in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The Second Japan-France Comprehensive Dialogue on Space (Tokyo) was held in March. In addition to discussions on information exchanges and the potential for cooperation in the aspects of security and civil life, the two countries also signed the "Comprehensive Space Partnership between the Competent Authorities of Japan and the French National Defence, Letter of Intent" and the "Technical Arrangement between the Competent Authorities of Japan and the Minister of Defence of the French Republic related to Space Situational Awareness Data Sharing" as the summary. In addition, the Fourth Japan-U.S. Comprehensive Dialogue on Space, the 11th Japan-U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS) Plenary Meeting and the 7th Japan-U.S. Civil Space Dialogue (Civil and Commercial Uses) (Washington, D.C.) were held in May, while the Third Japan-EU Space Policy Dialogue (Tokyo) was held in October. Japan also hosted a multilateral meeting in Kyoto, which was the 12th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG) held in December.

C Space Science and Exploration, Overseas Development of Japanese Space Industry, and Contributions to Global Challenges

The progress of space exploration and application for peaceful purposes is a common benefit for all humankind, and is

also significant in terms of diplomacy. In particular, the ISS is an epic project in which 15 countries participate, and has become a symbol of international cooperation in the field of outer space. From December, astronaut Norishige Kanai began his nearly six month stay on the ISS as a member of the 54th/55th Expedition Mission crew. The Japanese Experiment Module “Kibo” is capable of releasing nanosatellites, and is also used to release satellites on behalf of many emerging and developing countries with the aim of providing support for capacity building in the space field.

To acquire internationally increasing demand for satellites and launching services is an important challenge for the Japanese space industry. The Government of Japan has been promoting overseas development of its space industry through top-level sales and diplomatic missions overseas. Furthermore, through development cooperation that utilizes space technologies, Japan has been contributing to addressing global issues such as climate change, disaster risk reduction, forest conservation, and resources/energy, and to supporting capacity building in the field of space in developing countries. For example, Japan signed the Letter of Intent on space cooperation and maritime cooperation that utilizes satellite data with Indonesia in March, and has commenced studies towards the development of concrete projects in November. In relation to Thailand, Japan has signed an Exchange of Note on cooperation to develop the Continuously Operating Reference System Network based on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) technology, and has

also conducted demonstration experiments for satellite positioning services in Thailand, such as automatically-operated construction and farming equipments.

4 Disarmament and Non-proliferation and the Peaceful uses of Nuclear Energy⁸

(1) Nuclear Disarmament

As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings, Japan has the responsibility to take the lead in efforts by the international community to realize a world free of nuclear weapons.

In recent years, amidst the deterioration in the global security environment, including North Korea's nuclear and missile development, differences in positions concerning the approach to nuclear disarmament have been emerging not only between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States, but also among non-nuclear-weapon States that are exposed to the threat of nuclear weapons and those that are not. Concerning these severe circumstances, it is necessary to gain the cooperation of both non-nuclear-weapon and nuclear-weapon States, and to persevere in putting in place realistic and practical measures in order to advance nuclear disarmament in a real manner.

In the area of nuclear disarmament, the United Nation's conference to negotiate the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was conducted in 2017, and the treaty was adopted with a majority vote on July 7 (122 votes for, one vote against, and one abstained vote). Nuclear-weapon States and allies of NATO member countries, among others, did

⁸ For more details about Japan's policy in the fields of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, please refer to “Japan's Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Policy” (7th Edition) published in March 2016.

not participate the conference. Japan did not participate in the negotiations either. However, Japan attended the beginning of the conference and stated its position (See “Special Feature: Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons”).

Japan continues to pursue nuclear disarmament persistently with the aim to realize a world free of nuclear weapons, by taking a bridging role between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States through measures such as holding a meeting of the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament, submitting a draft resolution for the total elimination of nuclear weapons to the UN General Assembly, and utilizing the framework of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), and by accumulating realistic and practical measures that also involve nuclear-weapon States, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT).

A Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

Japan attaches great importance on maintaining and strengthening the NPT, which is the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. At the NPT Review Conference, which is held once every five years with the aim of achieving the goals of the Treaty and ensuring compliance with its provisions, various discussions that reflected the international situation of the time have been held since the Treaty entered into force in 1970. At the NPT Review Conference held in 2015, discussions surrounding the

issue of a weapons-of-mass-destruction-free zone in the Middle East and other topics could not reach a consensus, and the conference ended without an adoption of a final document. Against this backdrop, there is growing importance of efforts towards the NPT Review Conference in 2020, which marks the 50th anniversary of the Treaty’s entry into force.

Foreign Minister Kishida attended the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference, which was held in Vienna in May, and he appealed for the necessity to rebuild relationships of trust between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States. He also proposed three policies, namely enhancing transparency, improving the security environment, and raising awareness of the realities of the atomic bombings, and stated Japan’s proposals on the pathway towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

B Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament

In May, Japan announced the establishment of a Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament (EPG) at the first Preparatory Committee of the 2020 NPT Review Conference. The EPG consists of a total of 16 experts; six Japanese experts including the chairperson, and ten foreign experts from nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States including the States promoting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. In November, the EPG’s first meeting was held in Hiroshima. The EPG will make concrete recommendations that contribute

to substantive advancement in nuclear disarmament after the second meeting to be held in the spring of 2018. Japan will input the recommendation to the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee of the 2020 NPT Review Conference (in Geneva) in April, 2018.

C The Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI)

The NPDI, which is a group of non-nuclear-weapon States from various regions established under the leadership of Japan and Australia in 2010, has taken a bridging role between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States and is taking the lead in efforts in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation through its concrete and practical proposals, based on the involvement of the Foreign Ministers of its Member States.

At the First session of Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference held in May 2017, the NPDI submitted a total of six working papers, including a working paper on transparency, as a part of its concrete contributions to the discussions. In September, Foreign Minister Kono co-hosted the 9th Ministerial Meeting of the NPDI in New York, with Germany.



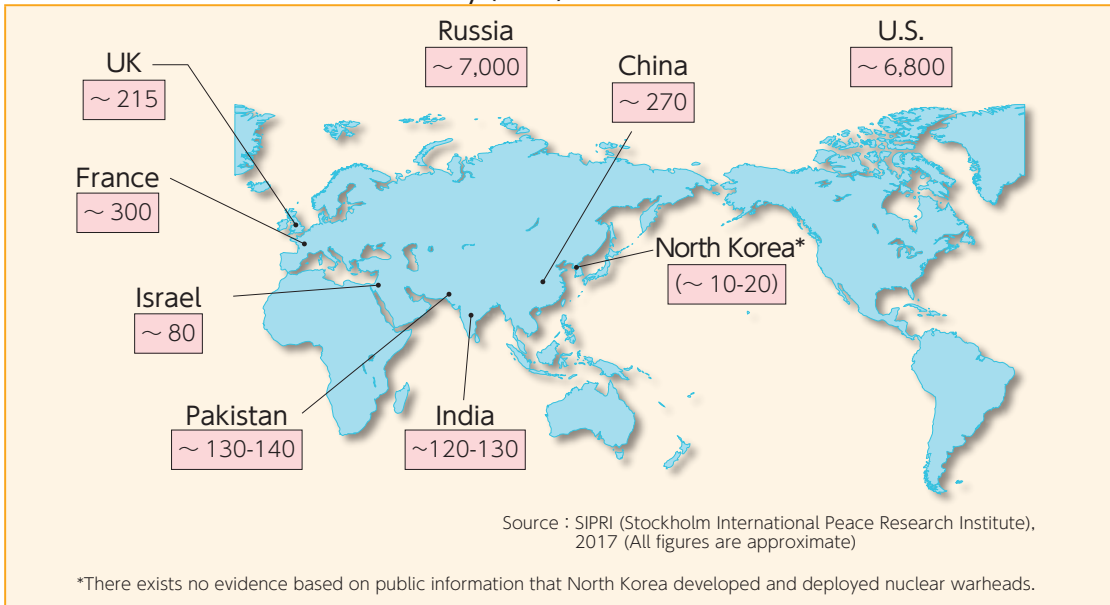
9th Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) Ministerial Meeting (September 21, New York, U.S. (Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations))

In addition to affirming collaboration and cooperation towards the 2020 NPT Review Meeting, a statement that strongly condemns North Korea's nuclear tests and missile launches was also issued.

D Initiatives Through the United Nations **(A) Resolution on Nuclear Disarmament**

Since 1994, Japan has annually submitted a draft resolution on the elimination of nuclear weapons to the UN General Assembly. This draft resolution incorporates current issues that are related to nuclear disarmament, as well as concrete and practical measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In 2017, the resolution aimed to rebuild relationships of trust among all states, bridge gaps among states with different positions, and provide a common ground for the international community to work together to address this issue, so as to achieve substantive progress in nuclear disarmament. As a result, this resolution was adopted with the wide support of 156 states at the UN General Assembly in December. Nuclear-weapon States such as the U.S. and the UK, both of which abstained from voting on the same resolution in the previous year, became co-sponsoring states for the resolution. France also voted for its adoption. The resolution was supported by many states, including 95 out of the 122 states that had voted in support of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. In addition to Japan's draft resolution on the elimination of nuclear weapons, a couple of resolutions that deal comprehensively with nuclear disarmament were also submitted to the UN General Assembly. Japan's draft resolution enjoyed the support of a larger number of states in comparison with these

► **World Nuclear Forces: Total Inventory (2017)**



other draft resolutions, and has continued to have the wide support of states of difference in position in the international community for more than 20 years.

(B) United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues

The UN Conference on Disarmament Issues, organized by the UN, has been held in Japan almost every year since 1989 in cooperation with local government bodies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In November 2017, the 27th UN Conference on Disarmament Issues was held in Hiroshima. 60 representatives from two international organizations and 12 countries, such as UN representatives including Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, and senior government officials, experts, NGO representatives, and media representatives from various countries attended the Conference. Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Okamoto attended



10th Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) (September 20, New York, U.S. (UN Headquarters))

the Conference on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and gave a speech at the opening session. In the speech, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Okamoto mentioned Japan's effort and approaches towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation based on the current severe security environment, in which the launch of a ballistic missile by North Korea took place during the early dawn of the opening day of the conference. At the Conference, representatives from

the atomic-bombed sites of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as civil society expressed their hopes for the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons. The participants also discussed education on disarmament and non-proliferation aimed at firmly passing on to next generations the correct understanding of the realities of atomic bombings across borders and generations, and the current state and future outlook of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation after the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

E Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

Japan attaches great importance on the early entry into force of the CTBT as a realistic and practical measure of nuclear disarmament where both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States can participate. During the two years from September 2015 to September 2017, Japan served as a co-coordinator for facilitating entry into force of the Treaty, along with Kazakhstan, and has taken the lead in initiatives toward the early entry into force of the CTBT. In March 2017, Japan made a voluntary contribution of approximately 290 million Japanese yen to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), with the aim of strengthening the detection capabilities of the International Monitoring System (IMS) for nuclear tests. In July, a regional conference to promote the entry into force of the CTBT in the Asia-Pacific region was convened in Tokyo. In August, Foreign Minister Kono had a meeting with

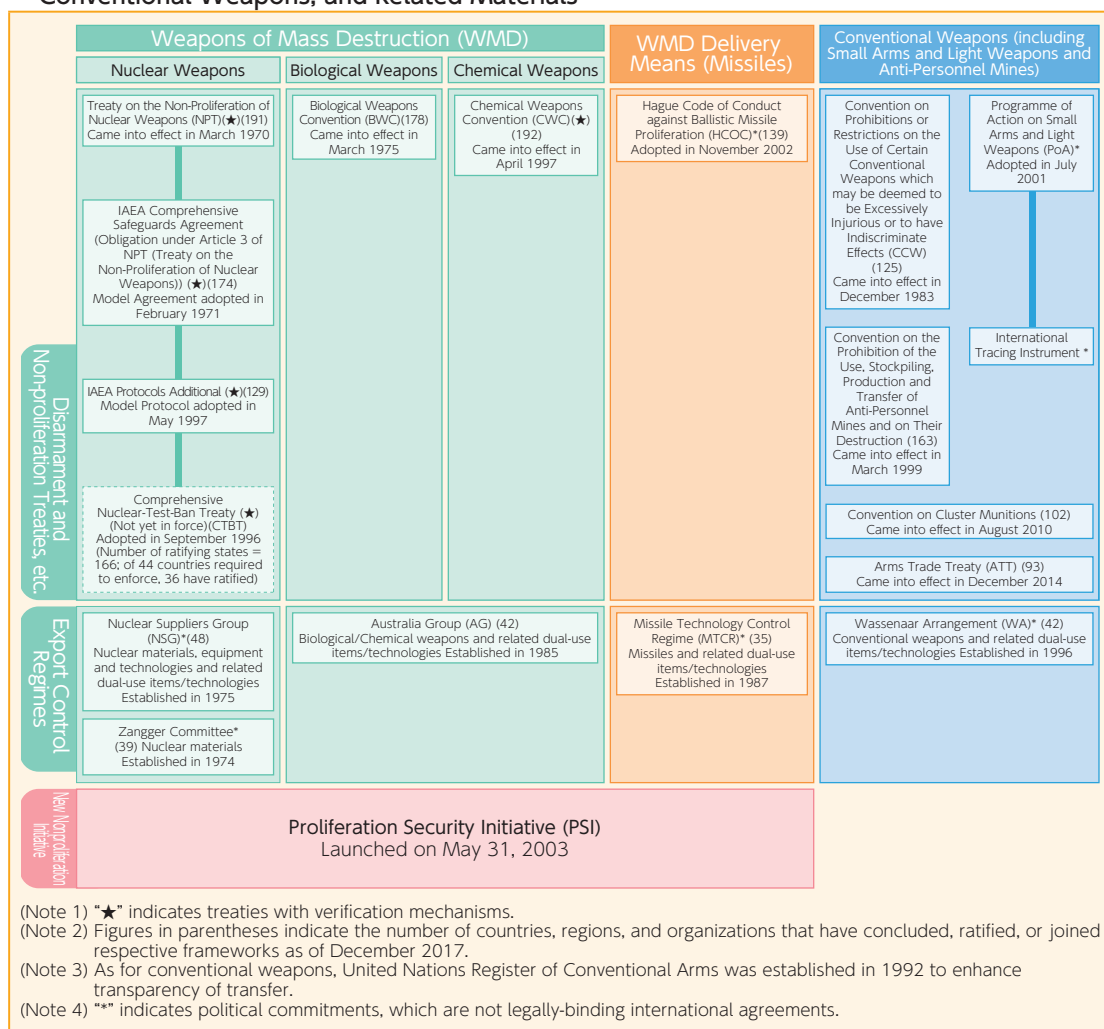
Executive Secretary of CTBTO Zerbo and affirmed that Japan will continue to offer close cooperation towards the early entry into force of the CTBT. Furthermore, in September, Foreign Minister Kono attended the 10th Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty held in New York. He condemned North Korea's nuclear tests as a grave challenge against the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and stated Japan's resolve, as a former co-coordinating country, to continue leading efforts by the international community towards facilitating the entry into force of the CTBT.

F Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT: Cut-off Treaty)⁹

The FMCT has great significance from the perspectives of both disarmament and non-proliferation, as it prevents the emergence of new states which possess nuclear-weapon by banning the production of fissile materials (such as highly-enriched uranium and plutonium) that are used in nuclear weapons, and at the same time, limits the production of nuclear weapons by nuclear-weapon States. However, for many years, an agreement has not been reached on the commencement of negotiations of the treaty in the Conference on Disarmament (CD). In view of this situation, it was decided at the 71st UN General Assembly in December 2016 to establish an FMCT High-Level Experts Preparatory Group, and to hold the sessions of the Group in 2017 and 2018 to consider and make recommendations on the substantive

⁹ A treaty concept that aims to prevent the increase in the number of nuclear weapons by prohibiting the production of fissile materials (such as enriched uranium and plutonium, etc.) that are used as the materials for the production of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.

► Disarmament and Non-proliferation Frameworks for Weapons of Mass Destruction, Missiles, Conventional Weapons, and Related Materials



elements of the treaty. In August 2017, the Group held its first session in Geneva, and Japan sent an expert to the meeting. Based on the discussions at the session, a report will be drawn up at the second meeting to be held in 2018, and submitted to the 73rd UN General Assembly that will be held in the same year.

G Disarmament and Non-proliferation Education

As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings, Japan places great

importance of education on disarmament and non-proliferation. Specifically, Japan has been actively engaged in efforts to convey the realities of the devastation caused by the use of nuclear weapons to people both within Japan and overseas, through activities such as translating the testimonies of atomic bomb survivors into other languages, conducting training courses for young diplomats from other countries in the sites of atomic bombings through the United Nations Programme of

Special Feature

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Views of the Government of Japan

1. Overview/Background

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted with a majority vote on July 7, 2017 after two rounds of negotiations (March and June-July 2017) in the United Nations, on the basis of initiatives by the civil society and countries, such as Mexico and Austria, which led the discussions on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. This Treaty became open for signature on September 20, 2017. It will enter into force 90 days after being ratified by 50 countries. As of February 28, 2018, 56 countries have signed the Treaty, of which five countries have ratified it.



Negotiations on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (July 7, New York, U.S. ; Photo: Mainichi Shimbun)

On December 10, 2017, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), an international NGO advocating the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Foreign Minister Kono issued a statement, in which he welcomed both an increase in global awareness and heightened momentum towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in the international community. In the statement, Foreign Minister Kono also expressed his respect for the efforts taken by the “Hibakusha” (atomic bomb survivors) of Hiroshima and Nagasaki who have engaged in activities over many years to speak about the realities of the atomic bombings. At the same time, Minister Kono also expressed his intention to advance practical and concrete measures towards nuclear disarmament, involving nuclear-weapon States.

2. Prohibitions Stipulated in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Article 1 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons stipulates that “Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances to: (a) Develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; (b) Transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly or indirectly; (c) Receive the transfer of or control over nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices directly or indirectly; (d) Use or threaten to use nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; (e) Assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Treaty; (f) Seek or receive any assistance, in any way, from anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Treaty; (g) Allow any stationing, installation or deployment of any nuclear

weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in its territory or at any place under its jurisdiction or control.”

3. Views of the Government of Japan

As Japan is the only country that has experienced nuclear devastation during war, the Government of Japan shares the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. On the other hand, North Korea's nuclear and missile development is an unprecedented, grave and imminent threat against peace and stability of Japan and the international community. As conventional weapons alone cannot effectively deter ones, such as North Korea, that threaten to use nuclear weapons, it is necessary to maintain the deterrence including nuclear deterrence under the Japan-U.S. Alliance.

As the Government of Japan works on nuclear disarmament, it is important to consider both humanitarian and security perspectives. The security perspective, however, is not taken into account in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. If Japan participates in a treaty that categorically makes nuclear weapons illegal, nuclear deterrence will lose its justification, which could then expose the lives and properties of Japanese citizens to danger. This will cause a problem for the security of Japan. Furthermore, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons has neither gained support of nuclear-weapon States that possess nuclear weapons in reality, nor that of non-nuclear-weapon States that are exposed to the threat of nuclear weapons just like Japan. Hence, there are also concerns that the Treaty is generating a division in efforts in the international community to advance nuclear disarmament.

It is essential for the Government of Japan to steadily seek ways to advance nuclear disarmament in a realistic manner, while responding appropriately to real security threat to fulfill its responsibility to protect the lives and properties of Japanese citizens. Therefore, Japan will tenaciously advance concrete and practical measures, while fulfilling a bridge-building role in the international community including nuclear-weapon States and countries that support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Fellowships on Disarmament¹⁰, providing assistance for holding atomic bomb exhibition overseas through its diplomatic missions overseas¹¹, and commissioning atomic bomb survivors who have

given testimonies of their atomic bomb experiences as “Special Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons.”

With the atomic bomb survivors aging, it is becoming increasingly important to

¹⁰ Implemented since 1983 by the UN to nurture nuclear disarmament experts. Participants of the program are invited to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and efforts are made to promote understanding of the realities of atomic bombing through tours of the various museums, talks by victims about the experience of atomic bombing, etc.

¹¹ Opened as a permanent exhibition about atomic bombing in New York (U.S.), Geneva (Switzerland) and Vienna (Austria), in cooperation with Hiroshima City and Nagasaki City. In 2017, the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition was held in Budapest (Hungary) and Hanoi (Vietnam), etc.

pass on the current understanding of the realities of the use of atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki across the generations and borders. In this regard, since 2013, Japan has been commissioning youths within Japan and overseas as “Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons.” In November 2017, the 3rd Forum of Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons was held in Hiroshima, with the aim of revitalizing the activities of the Youth Communicators, and strengthening their networking within Japan and overseas. Youth Communicator alumni from Japan and overseas attended the Forum.

Japan has also been engaged in the invitation of them to Hiroshima and Nagasaki through various invitation programmes. In FY2016, more than 2,400 people visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

(2) Non-proliferation

A Efforts to Prevent the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

Japan has been making efforts to strengthen non-proliferation regimes. As a member state of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors designated by the Board¹², Japan contributes to the activities of the

IAEA in both the personnel and financial aspects. Yukiya Amano, who has been serving as Director General of the IAEA since 2009, was re-elected (for the third consecutive term) unanimously at the IAEA Board of Governors meeting held in March 2017, and his appointment was approved at the 9th General Conference (for the term from December 2017 to the end of November 2021). Director General Amano has established the vision of “atoms for peace and development,” discussed issues such as application of safeguards, seen to the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)¹³, which is the final agreement concerning Iran’s nuclear issues, and tackled the nuclear issues of North Korea. Director General Amano has also made efforts in addressing development challenges by using nuclear technology. These initiatives under the leadership of Director General Amano have been highly appraised by countries around the world. With respect to the IAEA safeguards, which are a central measure to the international nuclear non-proliferation regimes, Japan encourages other countries to conclude Additional Protocols (AP) of the IAEA safeguards¹⁴ by providing personnel and financial support for the IAEA’s regional seminars,

¹² 13 countries designated by the IAEA Board of Governors. Japan and other countries such as G7 members that are advanced in the field of nuclear energy are nominated.

¹³ Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)

Sets forth detailed procedures for imposing constraints on Iran’s nuclear activities while ensuring that they serve peaceful purposes, and for lifting the sanctions that have been imposed until now.

<Main measures undertaken by Iran>

- Constraints on enriched uranium-related activities
 - Limits the number of centrifuges in operation to 5,060 units
 - Upper limit of enriched uranium at 3.67%, and limit on the amount of stored enriched uranium at 300 kg, etc.
- Constraints on Arak heavy-water nuclear reactor, and reprocessing
 - Redesign/remodeling of the Arak heavy-water nuclear reactor such that it is not able to produce weapon-grade plutonium, and transfer of spent fuel out of the country
 - No reprocessing including for research purposes, no construction of reprocessing facilities, etc.

¹⁴ A protocol concluded between a respective country and the IAEA in addition to a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement, etc. The conclusion of the Additional Protocol expands the scope of nuclear activity information that should be declared to the IAEA, and gives the IAEA strengthened rights to check for undeclared nuclear materials and nuclear activities. As of September 2017, 129 countries have concluded the Additional Protocol.

as well as through other fora. In addition to organizing national workshops aimed at promoting the conclusion of AP in Sudan and Ethiopia in April, a training course on the implementation of safeguards, hosted by the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) was held for Iran in September. These initiatives were implemented through financial support disbursed through the Nuclear Nonproliferation Fund¹⁵, and contribute to promoting the conclusion of AP in Southeast Asia, Middle East, and Africa.

With respect to nuclear weapons, biological and chemical weapons, missiles¹⁶, and conventional weapons, Japan participates in relevant export control regimes, which are coordinating frameworks for countries supporting appropriate export controls and capable of supplying respective weapons and related dual-use goods and technologies. In particular, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna serves as the Point of Contact of

the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

In addition to actively taking part in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)¹⁷, Japan is working to promote understanding of the non-proliferation regime and strengthen regional efforts particularly in Asia by hosting the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP)¹⁸ and the Asian Export Control Seminar¹⁹. Furthermore, through the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC), Japan is also contributing to international scientific cooperation and efforts to prevent the proliferation of knowledge and skills in the field of weapons of mass destruction. More specifically, scientists from Central Asia and other countries, who were previously involved in research and development focused on weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, are now undertake research for peaceful purposes funded by the ISTC.

To strengthen the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540²⁰, which was adopted in 2004 with the aim of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery

¹⁵ A special contribution that Japan makes independently to the IAEA, with the aim of strengthening the international non-proliferation regime. Established in 2001 based on arrangements with IAEA.

¹⁶ Apart from export control regimes, the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCCOC) addresses the proliferation of ballistic missiles based on the principle of exercising restraint in their development and deployment. 139 countries have subscribed to the HCCOC.

¹⁷ A framework established in May 2003 to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials, in which endorsing states discuss and implement possible measures within the scope of international and domestic law. 105 countries have endorsed the PSI as of December 2016. Japan hosted two PSI maritime interdiction exercises in 2004 and 2007, an Operational Experts Group (OEG) meeting in November 2010 in Tokyo, and an air interdiction exercise in July 2012. Japan has also participated in events hosted by other countries, including the May 2013 tenth anniversary High-Level Political Meeting in Poland, the January 2016 Mid-Level Political Meeting in the U.S., the August 2017 OEG meeting in Singapore, and the September 2017 Maritime Interdiction Exercise Pacific Protector 17 in Australia.

¹⁸ A multilateral meeting hosted by Japan to discuss various issues related to the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime in Asia with the participation of the ten ASEAN Member States, China, the ROK, India, the U.S., Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and France. The ASTOP was most recently held in January 2018.

¹⁹ A seminar hosted by Japan to exchange views and information towards the objective of strengthening export controls in Asia, with the participation of export control officials from Asian countries and regions. It is organized annually in Tokyo since 1993. The seminar was most recently held in February and March 2018 and attended by approximately 30 countries and regions.

²⁰ Adopted in April 2004, Resolution 1540 requires all countries to: (1) exercise restraint in providing support to terrorists and other non-state actors attempting to develop weapons of mass destruction; (2) enact laws prohibiting the development of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists and other non-state actors; and (3) implement domestic controls (protective measures, border control, export controls, etc.) to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The resolution also establishes under the UN Security Council the 1540 Committee composed of Security Council members, with a mandate to review and report to the Security Council the implementation status of Resolution 1540.

means (missiles) to non-state actors, Japan has contributed approximately 1 million US dollars. This contribution is primarily being used to support initiatives aimed at strengthening the non-proliferation regime in Asia.

B Regional Non-proliferation Issues

North Korea's development of nuclear and missile programs is a grave and urgent threat to international peace and security, and poses a serious challenge to the global nuclear non-proliferation regime centered on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

In the two years since 2016, North Korea has conducted three nuclear tests and launched as many as 40 ballistic missiles. The UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2270 in March 2016, Resolution 2321 in November 2016, and Resolutions 2356, 2371, 2375 and 2397 in 2017. However, North Korea has failed to comply with the series of resolutions, and has neither shown any intention nor taken any concrete action towards denuclearization.

The report issued by the Director General of the IAEA in August 2017 stated that throughout the period of observation by the IAEA on the situation of nuclear development in North Korea, indications of operation were observed at the 5MWe graphite-moderated reactor in Nyongbyon, including the discharge of water vapor and outflow of cooling water. This report further stated that while signs of operation were not observed at a facility deemed to be a reprocessing plant, there were indications that what was deemed to be within the fuel fabrication facility had been used. The

report also announced the establishment of a new team within the IAEA to tackle North Korea's nuclear issues, and stated that the IAEA is ready to return to North Korea immediately if the relevant countries reach a political agreement, if approved by the IAEA Board of Governors, and if there is such a request from North Korea.

On its part, Japan will continue to work closely with the relevant countries, including the U.S. and the ROK, and strongly demand that North Korea steadily implement measures aimed at the abandonment of its nuclear and missile programs. In addition, to ensure that countries fully and strictly implement sanctions imposed through the UN Security Council Resolutions, Japan will work on capacity building for export controls particularly in Asia (See 2-1-1 (1)).

On the other hand, with regard to Iran's nuclear issue, in July 2015, the EU3 (the UK, France, Germany, and EU) + 3 (the U.S., China, and Russia) and Iran agreed on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The JCPOA imposes restrictions on Iran's nuclear activities while ensuring that they serve peaceful purposes, and clearly sets forth the procedures for lifting the sanctions that have been imposed until now, alongside the implementation of measures by Iran. The UN Security Council Resolution 2231 was also adopted; this resolution endorses JCPOA, as well as requests to the IAEA to carry out the necessary verification and monitoring activities.

Iran and the IAEA conducted verification based on the "Road-map for the Clarification of Past and Present Outstanding Issues regarding Iran's Nuclear Program," which

covers the possible military dimensions of Iran's nuclear issue²¹. In December 2015, the IAEA Director General issued a Final Assessment Report²².

Furthermore, in January 2016, the IAEA verified that Iran had implemented some of the measures that it had committed to in the JCPOA. Consequently, based on UN Security Council Resolution 2231, some of the sanctions imposed through past relevant UN Security Council resolutions were terminated. Sanctions continue to be imposed on the transfer activities that are related to Iran's nuclear and missile activities.

Japan supports the JCPOA, and takes the position that its continuous implementation is important. Based on this position, when Foreign Minister Kishida visited Iran in October 2015, he expressed Japan's intention to cooperate in the field of nuclear safety and implementation of the IAEA safeguards and transparency measures. In addition, corresponding with the Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers' Meeting held on December 7, 2016, Japan decided to offer assistance, through IAEA, worth 550,000 Euros for cooperation in nuclear safety, and 1.5 million Euros for cooperation in safeguard measures, in order to support continuous implementation of the nuclear agreement. From September 25 to 29, 2017,

a training course on the implementation of safeguards on Iran was held in Japan (organized by the IAEA, and hosted by the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)).

With regard to Syria's implementation of the IAEA security measures, little progress has been achieved, partly due to the Syria crisis. In order to clarify the facts, it is important for Syria to cooperate fully with the IAEA, and to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol, as well as to implement it.

C Nuclear Security

In recent years, international cooperation on "Nuclear Security" to prevent terrorist organizations from using nuclear materials or other radioactive materials has also been enhanced through various efforts by the IAEA, the UN and like-minded countries. To maintain the heightened momentum from the Nuclear Security Summit that was held in Washington, D.C. (U.S.) in 2016 and the International Conference on Nuclear Security organized by the IAEA, the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) was held in Tokyo, Japan, in June 2017. Approximately 220 representatives from 74 countries and four international

²¹ Possible Military Dimensions (PMD)

In November 2011, the IAEA pointed out, through the Director General's Report, the "possible military dimensions (PMD)" of the signs of nuclear bomb development with regard to Iran's nuclear activities. The PMD comprises 12 items including the development of detonators. Thereafter, this has been treated as an important point of contention in consultations between Iran and the IAEA.

²² The IAEA Director General's Final Evaluation Report on the Possible Military Dimensions (PMD) of Iran's Nuclear Issue (Summary). The report mentioned the following three points.

(1) All of the activities included in the "Road-map for the Clarification of Past and Present Outstanding Issues Regarding Iran's Nuclear Program" were implemented as scheduled.

(2) The IAEA assessed that Iran had conducted the activities relevant to the development of nuclear explosive device in its organizational structure before the end of 2003, and some activities took place after 2003. At the same time, the IAEA assessed that these activities did not advance beyond feasibility and scientific studies, and acquisition of certain relevant technical competences and capabilities. Also, the IAEA has no credible indications of activities in Iran relevant to the development of a nuclear explosive device after 2009.

(3) The IAEA has found no credible indications of the diversion of nuclear material in connection with the possible military dimensions to Iran's nuclear program.

organizations participated in this event. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sonoura delivered a keynote lecture, in which he explained that the Government of Japan will cooperate with the IAEA on measures to counter nuclear terrorism as the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 approach, and expressed Japan's intention to strengthen measures to counter nuclear terrorism for major public events, and to contribute to enhancing nuclear security in the international community, particularly in the area of human resource development.

In February 2018, the signing of the Practical Arrangements between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the IAEA on Cooperation in the Area of Support to the Implementation of Nuclear Security Measures on the Occasion of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 took place in the presence of Foreign Minister Kono and Director General Amano of the IAEA.

(3) Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

A Multilateral Efforts

Along with nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are considered to be one of the three pillars of the NPT. According to the Treaty, it is the “inalienable right” for any country that meets its obligations to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation to develop nuclear research, production and use for peaceful purposes.

Due to such factors as growing global energy demand and the need to address global warming, many countries are planning to further develop or newly

introduce a nuclear energy program²³. Even after the Fukushima Daiichi accident, nuclear energy remains as an important energy source for the international community.

On the other hand, the nuclear materials, equipment and technologies used for nuclear power generation can be diverted to uses for military purposes, and a nuclear accident in one country may have significant impacts on its neighboring countries. For these reasons, with regard to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, it is vital to ensure the “3S”²⁴: (1) Safeguards; (2) Nuclear Safety (measures to ensure safety to prevent a nuclear accident, etc.); and (3) Nuclear Security. As the country that experienced the Fukushima Daiichi accident, it is Japan's responsibility to share with the rest of the world its experiences and lessons learned from the accident and to contribute in strengthening global nuclear safety. In this regard, Japan and the IAEA are working in cooperation. the IAEA Reponse and Assistance Network (RANET) Capacity Building Centre (CBC) was designated in Fukushima in 2013, where workshops are organized in May (twice), July, August, and October in 2017 for Japanese and foreign officials to strengthen their capabilities in the field of emergency preparedness and response.

Decommissioning, contaminated water management, as well as decontamination and environmental remediation, have been progressing steadily at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. However, this work continues to be difficult in ways that are unprecedented in the world, and

²³ According to the IAEA, as of December 2017, 448 nuclear reactors are in operation worldwide and 59 reactors are under construction (see the IAEA website).

²⁴ IAEA's Safeguards, typical measures for non-proliferation, and Nuclear Safety and Nuclear Security are referred to as the “3S” for short.

efforts are being made to tackle the tasks through the technology and collective knowledge of the world. Japan has been working closely with the IAEA since the occurrence of the accident. In 2017, Japan hosted marine monitoring experts missions (October), and held an Experts' Conference on environmental remediation (April and November) with the IAEA. In addition, after its publication of a report on the levels and impact of radiation from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident in 2014, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) has held briefing sessions about the report in Fukushima Prefecture (one held in October for 2017).

Furthermore, it is necessary to disseminate appropriate information at an appropriate time in order to deal with the aftermath of the accident and move forward on reconstruction, while gaining support and correct understanding of the international community. From this perspective, Japan periodically releases a comprehensive report through the IAEA, covering matters including the progress of decommissioning, contaminated water management at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, results of the monitoring of air dose rate and radioactivity concentration in the sea water, and food safety. Briefing sessions are held for diplomatic corps, and information is also provided through diplomatic missions overseas.

Nuclear energy is applied not only to the field of power generation, but also to areas including human health, food and agriculture, environment, and industrial applications. Promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in such non-power applications, and contributing to development issues,

are becoming increasingly important as developing countries make up the majority of NPT member states. As Director General Amano upholds "Atoms for Peace and Development," the IAEA also places great importance on technical cooperation for developing countries.

Japan has been providing active support for this cooperation through the Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) and other means. At the NPT Review Conference held in April 2015, Japan announced that it would be contributing a total of 25 million US dollars over the five years to the PUI. In 2017, Japan provided support through the PUI for projects, including measures against infectious diseases and natural disasters in developing countries.

B Bilateral Nuclear Cooperation Agreement

Bilateral nuclear cooperation agreements are concluded to secure a legal assurance from the recipient country, when transferring nuclear-related materials and equipment such as nuclear reactors to that country, that the transferred items will be used only for peaceful purposes. The agreements especially aim to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and ensure non-proliferation.

Moreover, as Japan attaches importance to ensuring the "3S," recent nuclear agreements between Japan and other countries set out provisions regarding nuclear safety, and affirm mutual compliance with international treaties on nuclear safety, while facilitating the promotion of cooperation in the field of nuclear safety under the agreements.

Numerous countries continue to express that they have high expectations for Japan's nuclear technology even after

Column

Participating in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference Additional Protocol Side Event

Masato Hori, Deputy Director
Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear
Security (ISCN), Japan Atomic Energy Agency

Do you know about the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) safeguards and Additional Protocol?

As the peaceful uses of nuclear power spreads across the globe and the number of countries that possess nuclear material rises from year to year, the safeguards serve as an important framework for verifying that nuclear materials are used only for peaceful purposes and not for the production of nuclear weapons.

After the Gulf War, it was revealed that Iraq, which had been subjected to the IAEA's safeguards, was engaged in secret nuclear development. In response, the Additional Protocol was entered into force to give the IAEA greater authority and enhance the reliability of the safeguards.

In September 2017, I attended "The IAEA Additional Protocol: 20 Years and Beyond" held in Vienna in conjunction with the 61st IAEA General Conference, and organized under the leadership of the Government of Japan to mark the 20th anniversary since the formulation of the Additional Protocol. At this event, the IAEA and the respective countries delivered reports about the background of the formulation of the Additional Protocol as well as the current status of its enforcement, and reaffirmed the importance of the Additional Protocol. Of the 174 countries where the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement is effective, the Additional Protocol has entered into force in 129 countries as of May 2017. In view of this situation, discussions were also held at the event on initiatives and challenges towards further increasing the number of countries where the Additional Protocol is effective.



Safeguards training (November 29)



The author delivering the opening remarks at a training session

Once the Additional Protocol enters into force in a country, the country will be obligated to provide even more information to the IAEA, and in principle, allow the IAEA safeguards inspectors to access to any place at any time. Therefore, it is necessary to establish the corresponding domestic laws

and systems. Since 2011, our organization, the ISCN, has been providing training and conducting seminars on the safeguards and the Additional Protocol for personnel from government agencies and nuclear power facilities of various countries, particularly in Asia. To date, 614 people have attended a total of 28 courses. In moving towards the entering into force of the Additional Protocol, many countries share common challenges including resource shortages, inadequate knowledge and lack of support from the Parliament, to name a few. At this event in Vienna, I shared the knowledge about these challenges, which I gained through the training, and contributed to discussions pertaining to future initiatives aimed at promoting the entering into force of the Additional Protocol.

To promote the entering into force of the Additional Protocol, there is a need to approach and appeal to relevant countries on a variety of occasions, and to provide necessary support. Seventeen countries and organizations participated in the Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network (APSN) held from October 30 in Busan (Republic of Korea), and engaged in discussions about issues related to the safeguards and other topics, as well as shared best practices. To strengthen nuclear nonproliferation, it is necessary to continue such efforts. The ISCN, for its part, will also continue to cooperate with MOFA, MEXT, the IAEA, and other agencies and organizations, and work tirelessly to tackle challenges in promoting the entering into force of the Additional Protocol.

the Fukushima Daiichi accident. While taking into account the situation and intentions of the partner countries desiring to cooperate with Japan in this field, Japan can continue to provide nuclear-related materials, equipment, and technology with the highest safety standards. Furthermore, as bilateral nuclear cooperation, Japan is called upon to share with other countries its experience and lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident, and to continue cooperating with other countries on improving nuclear safety. When considering whether or not to establish a nuclear cooperation agreement framework with a foreign country, Japan considers the overall situation in each individual case, taking into account such factors as non-proliferation, nuclear energy policy

in that country, the country's trust in and expectations for Japan, and the bilateral relationship between the two countries. As of the end of 2017, Japan has concluded nuclear cooperation agreements with Canada, Australia, China, the U.S., France, the UK, the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), Kazakhstan, the ROK, Viet Nam, Jordan, Russia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and India.

(4) Biological and Chemical Weapons

A Biological Weapons

The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)²⁵ is the only multilateral legal framework imposing a comprehensive ban on the development, production, and retention of biological weapons. However, the question of how to enhance the

²⁵ Enacted in March 1975. The contracting states number 179 (as of December 2017)

convention is a challenge, as it contains no provision regarding the means of verifying compliance with the BWC.

After the 6th Review Conference held in 2006, decisions were made to establish the Implementation Support Unit (fulfilling the functions of a secretariat), and to hold inter-sessional conferences twice a year; progress has been made in initiatives toward strengthening the implementation of the BWC.

At the 8th Review Conference held in November 2016, negotiations on inter-sessional activities broke down, resulting in holding only a Meeting of States Parties (MSP). However, at the MSP held in 2017, it was agreed that a meeting should be held on international cooperation, review on the progress of science and technology, domestic implementation, defense support, and systematic strengthening of the Convention.

B Chemical Weapons

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)²⁶ imposes a comprehensive ban on the development, production, storage, and use of chemical weapons and stipulates that all existing chemical weapons must be destroyed. Compliance is ensured through the verification system (declaration and inspection) and that is why this Convention is a groundbreaking international agreement on the disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The implementing agency of the CWC is the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which is

based in the Hague, the Netherlands. Along with the UN, the OPCW has played a key role in the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons. Its extensive efforts towards the realization of a world free of chemical weapons were highly appraised, and the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013. Japan has provided financial support for OPCW activities concerning the elimination of chemical weapons in Syria. In addition, Japan, which has a highly developed chemicals industry and numerous chemicals factories, also accepts many OPCW inspections. Apart from these, Japan cooperates actively with the OPCW in concrete ways, such as measures to increase the number of member States, and strengthening domestic implementation measures by States Parties with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of the Convention.

Moreover, under the CWC, Japan aims to complete, as soon as possible, the destruction of chemical weapons of the former Japanese Army abandoned in territory of China by working in cooperation with China.

(5) Conventional Weapons

A Cluster Munitions²⁷

Japan takes the humanitarian consequences brought about by cluster munitions very seriously. Therefore, in addition to taking steps to address this issue by victim assistance and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance, Japan is continuing efforts to increase the number of States Parties on Cluster Munitions

²⁶ Enacted in April 1997. The contracting states number 192 (as of December 2017)

²⁷ Generally speaking, it refers to a bomb or shell which enables numerous submunitions to be spread over a wide area by opening in the air a large container, which holds those submunitions. It is said that there is high possibility that many of them do not explode on impact, which creates problem of accidental killing or injury of civilian population.

(CCM)²⁸ for its universalization. Besides, Japan is assisting with UXO clearance bomb disposal and victim assistance projects in Laos, Lebanon and other countries that suffer from cluster munitions²⁹.

B Anti-personnel Mines

2017 marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Treaty)³⁰. To date, Japan has continued to promote comprehensive measures with a focus on the effective prohibition of anti-personnel mines and strengthening of support for mine-affected countries. As well as calling on countries in the Asia-Pacific region to ratify or accede to the Convention, Japan has, since 1998, provided support worth over 71 billion Japanese yen to 51 countries and regions to assist them in dealing with the consequences of land mines (for example, landmine clearance and victim assistance).

In December 2017, the 16th Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (the Ottawa Treaty) was held in Austria. At this Meeting, Japan looked back on its efforts to universalize the Ottawa Treaty in Japan to date, as well as its initiatives and achievements in supporting mine action. It also expressed Japan's continuous resolve to play a

positive role with the aim of realizing a mine-free world.

C The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)³¹

The ATT, which seeks to establish common international standards to regulate international trade in conventional arms and prevent illicit trade in them, came into force on December 24, 2014. As one of the original co-authors of the UN General Assembly Resolution that initiated a consideration of the Treaty, Japan has taken the lead in discussions and negotiations in the UN, and contributed actively to discussions in Conference of States Parties after the Treaty entered into force. In August 2018, Japan will be hosting the 4th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty in Japan as the chair country.

D Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)³²

The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) prohibits or restricts the use of conventional weapons that are deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects, and comprises a framework Convention that sets forth the procedural matters, etc., as well as five annexed Protocols that regulate the individual conventional arms, etc. The framework Convention came into force in 1983. Japan has ratified the framework

²⁸ Enacted in August 2010, it prohibits the use, possession, or production of cluster munitions, while obliging the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions, and the clearance of cluster munitions in contaminated areas. As of December 2017, the number of contracting states and regions is 102, including Japan.

²⁹ See the White Paper on Development Cooperation for specific efforts in international cooperation regarding cluster munition and anti-personnel mine.

³⁰ While banning the use and production of anti-personnel mines, the Convention, which came into force in March 1999, obliges the destruction of stockpiled mines and clearance of buried mines. As of December 2017, the number of contracting states and regions is 164, including Japan.

³¹ As of December 2017, the number of contracting states and regions to Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is 94. Japan signed the Treaty on the day that it was released for signing, and in May 2014, became the first country in the Asia Pacific region to become a contracting state.

³² As of December 2017, 125 countries and regions have ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

Convention and the annexed Protocols I to IV, including the revised Protocol II. In December 2017, the first meeting of the Group of Governmental Meeting of Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) was held, in response to concerns among the international community against a background of the growing military use of robots in recent years.

E Small Arms and Light Weapons

Described as “weapons of mass destruction” in terms of the carnage they cause, small arms and light weapons continue to proliferate due to their ease of operation, and are one of the causes behind the drawing out and escalation of conflict, as well as hindrance to the restoration of public security and post-conflict reconstruction and development. Since 1995, Japan has been making an annual submission to the UN General Assembly of a resolution on small arms and light weapons, which has consistently been adopted by consensus. Japan supports various projects to tackle small arms and light weapons across the globe, including weapons recovery and disposal programs and training courses.

5 Japan's Efforts at the United Nations (UN)

(1) The United Nations (UN)

A Japan-UN Relationship

The UN is an international organization with a universal character, in which almost all the countries in the world hold membership (193 countries as of December 2017). With a high level of expertise, it addresses various challenges that the international community faces in diverse areas, including conflict resolution and peacebuilding,

counter-terrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation, development, human rights, environment and climate change, and disaster risk reduction.

Japan is engaged more proactively in efforts to further strengthen cooperation through the UN, such as by tackling global issues, towards the realization of diplomatic goals that cannot be realized by one country alone. Japan has also served as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 11 times, the most frequent among the Member States, fulfilling a key role in the maintenance of peace and security in the international community.

In September, Prime Minister Abe and Foreign Minister Kono attended the 72nd UN General Assembly.

Prime Minister Abe delivered a speech at the General Debate for the five consecutive years. In addition to touching on global issues such as health and women issues, he focused on the North Korea issues in his speech. He pointed out that North Korea's nuclear and missile issues are posing an unprecedentedly grave and imminent threat. Furthermore he expressed that it is vital to urge North Korea to abandon all of its nuclear and ballistic missile programs in a complete, verifiable, and irreversible way, and emphasized the importance of pressure rather than dialogue to achieve that end. In view of that, he called for the international community to work together to tackle the issues of North Korea. With regard to the abductions issue as well, he declared that Japan will put all effort into bringing the abductees back to Japan as soon as possible.

Prime Minister Abe also attended the high-level events on the global issues of health and women, and drew attention to



UN Headquarters (Photo: UN Photo/Andrea Brizzi)



Prime Minister Abe attending the UN General Assembly (September 20, New York, U.S.; Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

Japan's initiatives in these aspects.

In the field of health, he attended the side event led by Japan, entitled “World Leaders for Universal Health Coverage (UHC): A High-Level Discussion at the United Nations on Achieving the SDGs through Health for All.” On this occasion, he explained that promoting UHC is an indispensable and vital means towards realizing the SDGs principle of creating a society where no one is left behind. Furthermore, he asserted that to achieve UHC, a framework that mobilizes and utilizes the resources of not only international organizations and donor countries, but also civil society and

private-sector businesses, is necessary in addition to domestic financing for developing countries. In this vein, he declared Japan's determination towards promoting UHC.

Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe attended the ceremony for the unveiling of the IMPACT 10x10x10 Parity Report of the HeForShe campaign organized by UN Women, which calls for the involvement of boys and men in promoting gender equality. In addition to disseminating Japan's initiatives and achievements towards the realization of a “society where all women shine,” he also introduced the World Assembly for Women (WAW! 2017) initiative.

Prime Minister Abe took full advantage of his attendance at the UN General Assembly to engage actively in dialogues with high-level UN representatives and leaders of the respective countries, as well as exchanges of opinions on topics including the issues of North Korea.

In his meeting with the UN Secretary-General Guterres, Prime Minister Abe affirmed the importance of the full implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea by all Member States. At the same time, Prime Minister Abe conveyed that North Korea's serious intention and action towards denuclearization are needed, and that it is important to create a situation that makes North Korea request for a dialogue, by imposing further pressure on North Korea. Prime Minister Abe also called for understanding and cooperation on the abductions issue. With regard to the UN reform, he expressed that the reform of the UN cannot be fully realized without the reform of the Security Council, and affirmed

that both parties will continue cooperating closely on the UN reform.

In his dialogue with President of the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly Lajčák, Prime Minister Abe expressed that the launch of ballistic missiles and the nuclear tests conducted by North Korea are clear violations of the UN Security Council resolutions, and a serious blow to the non-proliferation regime. Hence, Prime Minister Abe expressed his desire to cooperate with President Lajčák on encouraging Member States to fully implement the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. He also called for understanding and support towards the resolution of the abductions issue. Furthermore, with regard to the reform of the UN Security Council, he expressed a strong desire to launch text-based negotiations in the intergovernmental negotiations during the current session, and conveyed his expectations for President Lajčák's leadership in this regard.

Prime Minister Abe hosted the Japan-Africa Security Council Members' Summit Meeting. During the Meeting, leaders from Africa declared their support for Japan's position on North Korea, and emphasized the importance of the UN Security Council reforms. Prime Minister Abe also hosted the Fourth Japan-Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting, where the respective countries expressed their support for Japan's position on the North Korea issues, and confirmed their cooperation towards the Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM8) scheduled for May 2018. Prime Minister Abe also held Summit Meetings with Israel, Iran, Jordan, France, Turkey, Croatia, and the U.S., as well as a Japan-U.S.-ROK Trilateral Summit Meeting. In addition, he received a courtesy call from President of

the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Bach. In these ways, he worked actively to strengthen bilateral relations and cultivate other relationships.

During his stay in New York, Prime Minister Abe attended a «Washoku» (Japanese Cuisine) and Tourism Reception as well as an informal discussion with U.S. CEOs. Further he delivered a speech at the New York Stock Exchange. Through these occasions he offered direct explanations to experts and business people about Japan's economic and financial policies, actively disseminated information about Japan's appeal, and called for investment in Japan. Prime Minister Abe also had a social gathering with Japanese staff at UN organizations, encouraging them to play an even more active role in the UN.

Foreign Minister Kono chaired the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 countries on UN Security Council Reform and co-chaired the Japan-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) Extended Troika Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and attended a total of 14 multilateral conferences including the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) Ministerial Meeting and the "GUAM-Japan" Foreign Ministers' Meeting. He also held 15 Foreign Minister's Meetings, including Japan-U.S.-India and Japan-China, taking the opportunity of the UN General Assembly to strengthen mutual trust with his counterparts from other countries.

In 2017, there were also many opportunities apart from the UN General Assembly for high-level exchanges.

In July, President of the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of



Dialogue between Prime Minister Abe and UN Secretary-General Guterres (September 19, New York, U.S. (pool photo); Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

Slovakia Lajčák visited Japan. In addition to paying a courtesy call on Prime Minister Abe, he engaged in a wide exchange of views on the North Korea issues, Security Council reforms, and SDGs with Foreign Minister Kishida.

In December, UN Secretary-General Guterres visited Japan for the first time after assuming office as the Secretary-General in January 2017. In his talk with Prime Minister Abe, the two exchanged detailed opinions about various issues concerning the international community, including the issue of North Korea and UN reforms. With regard to the issue of North Korea, they were in full concurrence that denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is vital to peace and stability of the region. They also shared the recognition that dialogue with North Korea for the sake of dialogue is meaningless when it comes to North Korea; rather, it is important to engage in meaningful dialogue aimed at denuclearization. Hence, they affirmed that they will work even more closely to address the issue. Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe and UN Secretary-General Guterres attended the UHC Forum 2017 organized jointly by Japan, the World Bank (WB), the World Health Organization (WHO),

and others, where they disseminated a message for the international community to work hand-in-hand to promote UHC. UN Secretary-General Guterres took advantage of various opportunities during his stay in Japan to express his high appraisal of Japan's role in multilateralism and its contributions to the UN. Furthermore, in December, Foreign Minister Kono, who was on a visit to New York to attend the UN Security Council Ministerial Meeting, held talks with UN Secretary-General Guterres and President of the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly Lajčák.

B United Nations Security Council and its reform

(A) United Nations Security Council

The UN Security Council holds the primary responsibility within the UN for maintaining international peace and security. Its activities, including Peacekeeping Operations based on UN Security Council resolutions, are diversifying and the Council's role is expanding year by year, encompassing the efforts to address new threats such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and terrorism.

Japan served as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the 11th time from January 2016 to the end of December 2017, having served more frequently than any other UN Member State, and contributed proactively to discussions on topics such as country-specific situations and peacebuilding. During its term on the Council, Japan made every effort to resolve North Korea's nuclear and missile issues; those efforts included contributions to drafting and the adoption of six UN Security Council resolutions in response to North Korea's repeated

ballistic missile launches and three nuclear tests conducted in January and September 2016, and September 2017. In December 2017, when Japan held the Presidency of the UN Security Council, Foreign Minister Kono chaired the United Nations Security Council Briefing on Non-proliferation / Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Japan, as the chair of the Council, also convened an open debate on "Addressing Complex Contemporary Challenges to International Peace and Security." In this regard, Japan made significant contributions to discussions concerning the maintenance of international peace and security (See Special Feature "Summary of Japan's contribution during its 11th term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council").

(B) Reform of the United Nations Security Council

For more than 70 years since the establishment of the UN, although the structure of the international community has changed significantly and the UN's functions have diversified, the composition of the UN Security Council has basically remained unchanged even today. There is a common recognition in the international community on the necessity of an early reform of the UN Security Council, in order to improve its legitimacy, effectiveness, representativeness, and transparency.

Japan has contributed proactively to the international community in areas such as disarmament and non-proliferation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and "human security," among others. To play an even more proactive role towards the realization of world peace and security through the UN, Japan has been making

efforts to convince other countries in pursuit of the early realization of the UN Security Council reform, with the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent seats, and Japan's admission as a permanent member.

(C) Recent activities regarding the UN Security Council reform

Since 2009, in the UN General Assembly, Member States have been engaging in the Inter-governmental Negotiations on the UN Security Council reform. At the Inter-governmental Negotiations during the 71st session of the General Assembly (held once a month from February 2016 to June), the Co-chairs of the Inter-governmental Negotiations (UN Permanent Representatives of Romania and Tunisia) drafted a document summarizing the key points of convergence and divergence between countries, with respect to five key issues concerning the UN Security Council reform ((1) categories of membership, (2) the question of veto, (3) regional representation, (4) size of an enlarged Council and the working methods of the Security Council, and (5) relationship between the Council and the General Assembly). At the Inter-governmental Negotiations held in July 2017, the decision to pass on this document to the 72nd session (from September 2017 to September 2018) was adopted with a consensus at the UN General Assembly.

Furthermore, on October 30, President of the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly Lajčák appointed the Permanent Representatives of Georgia and the United Arab Emirates as new Co-chairs of the Inter-governmental Negotiations. President Lajčák himself also declared in a letter that he will be proactively involved in the process of the UN Security Council



Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 countries (Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan) on the United Nations Security Council Reform (September 20, New York, U.S.)



UN Security Council Chamber (Photo: UN Photo/Loey Felipe)

reform.

In addition, Japan also places great importance on strengthening its initiatives as a member of the G4 (Japan, India, Germany, and Brazil), a group that cooperates on promoting the UN Security Council reform. Japan hosted the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 countries along with the UN General Assembly High-level Week in September. At this meeting, taking into account that all aspects of reform had been thoroughly discussed by the end of the 71st session, the Ministers agreed to work with strong resolve in order to launch text-based negotiations at the Inter-governmental Negotiations during the

72nd session of the UN General Assembly.

Japan will continue to engage proactively in the process for realizing the UN Security Council reform, in close cooperation with reform-oriented countries.

C Administrative and Budgetary Issues of the United Nations

(A) Budget of the United Nations

The UN budget is mainly composed of the regular budget which is the biennial budget for the period from January to December of the next year, and the peacekeeping budget which is the one-year budget for the period from July to the following June.

With regard to the regular budget, final budget for the FY2016-2017 biennium amounting to approximately 5.7 billion US dollars was approved, while regular budget for FY2018-2019 biennium, amounting to approximately 5.4 billion US dollars, was approved in December 2017 at the UN General Assembly (Approximately 5.3% less than the final budget for FY2016-2017 biennium). In June, the budgets for peacekeeping operations for FY2017-2018 biennium, amounting to approximately 6.8 billion US dollars in total, were approved (Approximately 14% less than the final budget for the previous fiscal year).

(B) Japan's Contribution³³

The budget, which supports the activities of the UN, is composed of assessed contributions by Member States and voluntary contributions by Member States in accordance with their policy needs. With regard to the assessed contributions, Japan contributed approximately 240 million

³³ Concerning Japan's financial contributions to international organizations including the UN, refer to the section on reports concerning contributions and funding to international organizations on the MOFA website. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shiryo/sonota.html> (in Japanese only)

Special Feature

Summary of Japan's Contribution during its 11th Term as a Non-Permanent Member of the UN Security Council

Japan completed its 11th term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council at the end of 2017, which made it the most frequently serving non-permanent member of the Council among all Member States. During its term on the council (from January 2016 to December 2017), Japan contributed to international peace and security by proactively addressing a broad range of issues.

Response to North Korea

During the two years of Japan's tenure at the UN Security Council, North Korea went ahead with three nuclear tests and launched as many as 40 ballistic missiles, including ballistic missiles with the intercontinental range that can reach the East Coast of the United States. Japan played a leading role in discussions at the Security Council, by working closely with the countries concerned, including the United States. During Japan's term at the Security Council, six UNSCRs were adopted including Resolution 2397, which further enhances the sanctions measures against North Korea to an unprecedented level.

In December 2017, Foreign Minister Kono presided over the UN Security Council Ministerial-Level Meeting on the North Korean issue representing Japan as the President of the UN Security Council. This meeting sent out a unified message that a nuclear-armed North Korea will never be accepted by the international community and that the full implementation of the UNSCRs by all Member States is indispensable.

Response to regional situations, including Africa and the Middle East

Japan also contributed actively to the UN Security Council's activities related to the situations in Africa and the Middle East. Africa accounts for approximately 60% of the agenda of the Security Council, and Japan has put effort into objectively and accurately assessing the volatile regional situation, and into utilizing the Security Council in an efficient and timely manner to prevent conflicts in Africa and to contribute to mid- to long-term development and stability of the affected regions. In particular, Japan organized the Security Council Open Debate on Peacebuilding in Africa in July 2016, as the UN Security Council President. At this meeting, Japan's initiatives were highly appreciated by many participating countries, and a Statement by the President of the Security Council was adopted. This statement stressed the importance of institution-building, capacity-building, confidence-building, rule of law and use of science and technology in peacebuilding in Africa.

With regard to the situation in the Middle East, Japan also contributed proactively to activities aimed at making progress in difficult issues such as Syria, Yemen, the Middle East

peace process, and Afghanistan. This includes initiatives such as taking the lead in drawing up draft resolutions on Syria's humanitarian situation and Afghanistan.

Expanding the functions of the UN Security Council

In recent years, in addition to addressing traditional international conflicts and civil war, the UN Security Council has also organized meetings on various issues including climate change, famine, and infectious diseases. In light of this trend, in December 2017, Japan hosted an open debate of the UN Security Council on "Addressing complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security." Furthermore, Japan also aims to contribute to discussions based on the ideas of human security and sustaining peace, to make sure that the UN Security Council can respond effectively with complex contemporary threats from the perspective of international peace and security.

Efforts to improve the working methods of the UN Security Council

As a non-permanent member of the Security Council and particularly as the Chair of the Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, Japan has led debates on improving the working methods of the UN Security Council, including measures to enhance its efficiency, transparency and interactivity. These include getting incoming non-permanent members to be well-acquainted with the Council's procedures prior to joining the Security Council so that they can effectively play their role from the outset of their tenure. In July 2016, Japan organized an open debate as the President of the UN Security Council, and based on these debates, a comprehensive and systematic Note by the President of the Security Council concerning the Security Council's working methods was revised in August 2017.



Foreign Minister Kono presiding over the United Nations Security Council Briefing (December 15, New York, United States)

Japan will contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security by attempting to be a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council as frequently as possible, until the achievement of the Security Council reform, including the admission of Japan as a permanent member of the Council. From this perspective, in December 2017 when it concluded its term as a non-permanent member of the Council, Japan announced that it will be running for the UNSC non-permanent membership election in 2022(serving for the term of 2023-2024).

Column

Japan-China-ROK Youth Exchange

Genshitsu Sen
Japan-United Nations Goodwill Ambassador
and President of the United Nations Association of Japan (UNA)

I was designated as the Japan-United Nations (UN) Goodwill Ambassador by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in 2005, and prior to that, in 2002, I became the first private citizen to be appointed as the President of the U.N. Association of Japan. Since I am a master of tea ceremony, these appointments had probably been made in consideration of the importance of civilian exchanges through culture.

In the teachings of Wang Yangming, there is a saying “Heaven, Earth, and the myriad things were originally as one substance.” As we were originally a single body with all things in the universe, we feel the pain and suffering of others as the pain and suffering of ourselves. Although there are many difficult issues between Japan, China and the Republic of Korea (ROK) today, with that feeling, promoting civil exchanges especially among young population means all the more to us. Every people has its own unique culture. This culture should be respected, and cannot be infringed upon by anyone.

To foster personalities that are able to treat everyone in the same way, it is necessary to nurture young people with a solid background that is underpinned by education. In view of that, the U.N. Association of Japan has been hosting the Japan, China and the Republic of Korea (JCK) Youth Forum (shown in the appended table) since 2010, held in each of the three countries in turn each time. The Trilateral Presidents Meeting of the U.N. Associations of the three countries is held on the day prior to the Youth Forum every year, during which the delegates discuss approaches to cooperation and coordination.

At the Trilateral Presidents Meeting held in 2017, the delegates exchanged candid opinions on the following four topics: (i) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); (ii) priority matters for the Secretary-General of the United Nations; (iii) culture dialogues on peace and development; and (iv) peacekeeping and peace building. They also affirmed their commitments towards mutual cooperation and contribution to the UN peace activities. The Youth Forum, which was held the next day, welcomed 20 university students from



Trilateral Presidents Meeting of UNA-Japan, UNA-China and UNA-ROK (August 28, Beijing, China)



Participating students of the 8th JCK Youth Forum, and participants of the Trilateral Presidents Meeting of UNA-Japan, UNA-China and UNA-ROK (August 30, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China)

Japan, 20 from ROK, and 40 from the host country, China. All sessions were held in English, and the participants ate and slept together from August 29 to September 3 while they participated and had discussions in model U.N. sessions followed by breakout sessions. Although political topics would emerge from time to time, they did not get carried away by their emotions, but spoke carefully and earnestly. I believe this opportunity was a valuable experience for all the participants. It has already been decided that the next Youth Forum will be held in ROK in 2018.

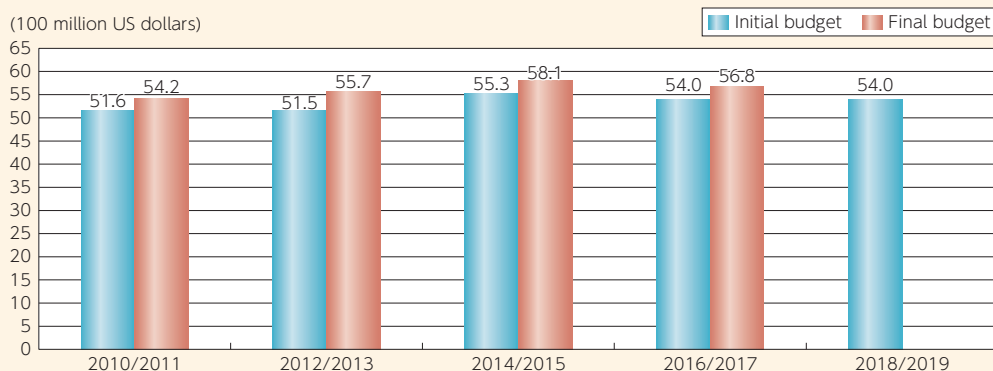
I think that this Japan-China-ROK Youth Exchange has successfully taken place every year because three countries took turns to host the event; also, the participants were full of youth entrepreneurship and trying to understand each other. Year by year, the participating Japanese students are becoming more active in their discussion.

I have heard that the youths of today are becoming introverted. However, when I meet the participating youths in this forum, I take heart and feel encouraged that Japan is still doing strong.

Past Forums of JCK

	Year	Country	City	Venue
1st	2010	Japan	Tokyo	Shonan Village
2nd	2011	China	Chengdu	Sichuan University
3rd	2012	Korea	Seoul	Kyung Hee University
4th	2013	Japan	Sapporo	Sapporo University
5th	2014	China	Xi'an	Northwestern Polytechnical University
6th	2015	Korea	Gyeongju	Imhaejon Hall
7th	2016	Japan	Fukuoka	Seinan Gakuin University
8th	2017	China	Beijing	Beijing Foreign Studies University

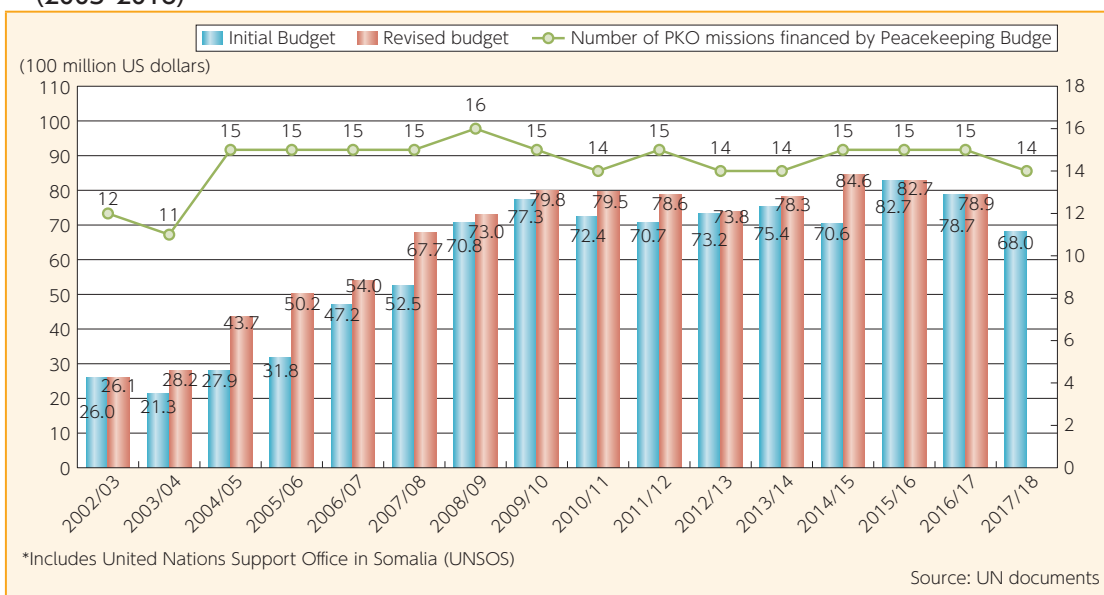
► Changes in UN biennial regular budgets (100 million US dollars)



(Note) A "final budget" includes an additional demand generated in the course of a biennial budget or an additional budget adjusted for inflation, etc.

Source : UN documents

► Changes in the Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) Budget and the number of PKO missions (2003–2018)



► The ratio of contribution to the UN Regular Budget by major Member States

Ranking*	Country	2013-2015	2016-2018	Increase/decrease by points
1	U.S.	22.000%	22.000%	±0
2	Japan	10.833%	9.680%	-1.153
3	China	5.148%	7.921%	+2.773
4	Germany	7.141%	6.389%	-0.752
5	France	5.593%	4.859%	-0.734
6	UK	5.179%	4.463%	-0.716
7	Brazil	2.934%	3.823%	+0.889
8	Italy	4.448%	3.748%	-0.700
9	Russia	2.438%	3.088%	+0.650
10	Canada	2.984%	2.921%	-0.063

* The numbers refer to rank for 2016-2018.

Source: UN documents

► The ratio of contribution to the UN Peacekeeping Budget by major Member States

Ranking*	Country	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	U.S.	28.3626%	28.5738%	28.4691%	28.4344%
2	China	6.6368%	10.2879%	10.2502%	10.2377%
3	Japan	10.8330%	9.6800%		
4	Germany	7.1410%	6.3890%		
5	France	7.2105%	6.3109%	6.2878%	6.2801%
6	UK	6.6768%	5.7966%	5.7753%	5.7683%
7	Russia	3.1431%	4.0107%	3.9960%	3.9912%
8	Italy	4.4480%	3.7480%		
9	Canada	2.9840%	2.9210%		
10	Spain	2.9730%	2.4430%		

* The numbers refer to rank for 2016-2018.

Source: UN documents

US dollars to the UN regular budget for 2017, ranking second only to the U.S. Its contribution to peacekeeping operations for 2017 was approximately 660 million US dollars, coming third after the U.S. and China. As a major financial contributor, Japan has been encouraging the UN to make more efficient and effective use of its resources.

UN Secretary-General Guterres, who assumed office in January, positions peace initiatives and development, as well as reforms of the management of the UN, as priority issues, and is engaged in efforts to further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the secretariat functions. Japan, while supporting the objectives of these reforms, is urging the UN to move forward on the reforms in a way that does not impose additional financial burden on Member States. It is expected that such reforms will enhance efficiency of the financial, budgetary, and human resource management. Based on the resolution on the policies for management reform, etc., adopted at the end of December 2017, drafts on the structure and budget for the implementation of reforms are to be submitted in May 2018, but it is expected to take time to decide the concrete contents of the reform and implement them. While continuing to bridge differences in the respective views of Member States, Japan is actively contributing to the discussion with other Member States and the UN Secretariat to ensure concrete progress in management reforms.

6 The Rule of Law in the International Community

(1) Japan's Diplomacy Strengthening the Rule of Law

Strengthening the rule of law is a pillar of Japan's foreign policy. Japan opposes unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion, and strives to maintain its territorial integrity, secure its maritime and economic interests, and protect its citizens. Examples of Japan's efforts in this regard include the consistent affirmation of the maintenance and strengthening of a free and open international order based on the rule of law at various fora, including international conferences such as the UN General Assembly and meetings with relevant states, to promote the rule of law in the international community. At the G7 Taormina Summit (Italy) in May 2017, the leaders of the G7 reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining the rule-based order in the maritime domain based on the principles of international law, including as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and to the peaceful settlement of disputes including arbitration. From the perspective of promoting the rule of law in the international community, Japan has been contributing to the peaceful settlement of inter-state disputes based on international law, formation and development of a new international legal order, and the development of legal systems and human resources in various countries.

A Peaceful Settlement of Disputes

In order to encourage peaceful settlement of disputes via international judicial institutions while striving to comply faithfully with international law, Japan

accepts the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations³⁴, and constructively contributes towards the establishment of the rule of law in the international community, via the provision of human and financial resources. Japan has delivered judges to international judicial bodies such as Judge Hisashi Owada at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), President of the ICJ from March 2009 to February 2012, Judge Shunji Yanai at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS; see 3-1-6 (2)), President of the ITLOS from October 2011 to September 2014, and Judge Kuniko Ozaki at the International Criminal Court (ICC; see 3-1-6 (5)), Second Vice-President of the Court from March 2015 to March 2018. With regards to the ICC, at the election held in December 2017, Japanese candidate Tomoko Akane, Ambassador for International Judicial Cooperation and Public Prosecutor of Supreme Public Prosecutors Office of Japan, was elected as a new Judge. Japan is also the largest financial contributor to the ITLOS and the ICC. Through these contributions, Japan strives to enhance the effectiveness and universality of international courts and tribunals. To further strengthen the structure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in dealing with international litigations, efforts are ongoing to enhance expertise on international judicial proceedings as well as to build up strengthened networks with lawyers in and outside Japan, especially by the International Judicial Proceedings Division established in the International

Legal Affairs Bureau in April 2015.

B International Rule-making

International rule-making to respond to the issues the global community faces is one of the important efforts to strengthen the rule of law. In developing international rules, Japan has participated actively in negotiations in specific fields and has taken initiatives in rule-making processes from the planning phase, in order to reflect Japan's own ideas and views in cross-sectoral initiatives in the UN, etc., and to realize the appropriate development of international laws. Specifically, Japan has been actively involved in the rule-making process within various international frameworks including the codification work at the International Law Commission (ILC) and the 6th Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as the preparation of conventions and model laws in the field of private international law at forums such as the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT). In the ILC, Dr. Shinya Murase, Professor Emeritus of Sophia University, serves as a Special Rapporteur on the topic of "Protection of the Atmosphere," contributing greatly to the development of international law through the deliberation of draft texts and other documentation. Japan also dispatches government representatives to various meetings of the HCCH, UNCITRAL, and UNIDROIT, taking an active lead in

³⁴ A declaration that states parties to the Statute of the ICJ recognizes as compulsory ipso facto and without special agreement, in relation to any other state accepting the same obligation, the jurisdiction of the ICJ, in accordance with Article 36, paragraph 2 of its Statute. Only 73 countries, including Japan, have deposited such declaration to date.

discussions. In addition, Professor Hideki Kanda from Gakushuin University serves as a board member of UNIDROIT. Japan also cooperates with the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), a regional forum on international law, by providing personnel and financial support.

C Development of Domestic Legislation and Other Matters

Japan not only takes steps to appropriately improve its own national laws so as to comply with international law, but also actively supports the development of domestic legislation of Asian countries, and undertakes international cooperation related to the rule of law in order to further develop the rule of law. For example, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japanese Society of International Law, supported by the Nippon Foundation, co-organize the “Asia Cup,” an international law moot court competition for students from Asia with the aim of raising awareness about the importance of the peaceful settlement of disputes, nurturing future generations in the field of international law, and strengthening exchange and communication among them. On the occasion of its 19th session in

2017, university students from 11 countries in Asia (Japan, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, China, Nepal, the Philippines, Viet Nam, Malaysia, and Pakistan) competed in written and oral pleadings on the theme of a fictional international dispute on the Law of the Sea.

With respect to Japan’s international judicial cooperation in the area of the rule of law, including support for the establishment of legal systems in Asia and human resource development in the field of criminal justice for the entire region, Japan actively promoted such cooperation in an event held on the sidelines of the AALCO Annual Session following the previous year.

(2) Initiatives in the Maritime Sector

In recent years, there has been an increasing number of cases of friction and tension between states taking place in the seas of Asia, attracting significant concern from the international community. Against this backdrop, Prime Minister Abe advocated the “Three Principles of the Rule of Law at Sea” at the Shangri-La Dialogue in May 2014, which are: (1) making and clarifying claims based on international law; (2) not using force or coercion in trying to drive their claims; and (3) seeking to settle disputes by peaceful means. Based on these Three Principles, Japan is actively engaged in the maintenance and development of open and stable seas. Specifically, at the G7 Taormina Summit (Italy) held in May 2017, Prime Minister Abe led discussions on maritime security. The leaders of the G7 shared the view on the importance of rules-based order in the maritime domain, and they reaffirmed their commitment to the peaceful settlement of maritime disputes, including arbitration.



International law moot court competition, “2017 Asia Cup” (August, Tokyo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Photo: Executive Committee of the 2017 Asia Cup)

Furthermore, at the East Asia Summit (EAS) held in November, Prime Minister Abe announced Japan's intention to move forward efforts to maintain and strengthen a free and open maritime order in the Indo-Pacific based on the rule of law, and shared the importance of promoting such efforts, with the participating countries.

The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) plays an important role in the rule of law at sea. UNCLOS established the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) for the peaceful settlement of maritime disputes and maintenance and development of the legal order at sea. Japan, while promoting the rule of law at sea, attaches importance to the role played by ITLOS and has provided personnel to the Tribunal by producing two Japanese judges successively and has also been the largest financial contributor since the establishment of ITLOS.

Likewise, the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) and the International Seabed Authority (ISA) also play important roles in the operation of the system for defining the outer limits of the continental shelf and management of deep sea-bed mineral resources respectively. Japan continues to cooperate with these organizations in terms of both human and financial resources (see 3-1-3 (4)).

Aiming to foster common understanding about the rule of law at sea, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held the International Symposium on the Law of the Sea in February and December. Renowned scholars of international law, lawyers, ITLOS judges, and CLCS members from Japan and overseas were invited, where they engaged in vigorous exchanges of opinions on issues related to the Law of



International Symposium on the Law of the Sea (February 2 – 3, Mita Kaigisho, Tokyo)

the Sea.

(3) Initiatives in the Fields of Politics and Security

In order to contribute more actively towards international peace and security based on the Legislation for Peace and Security, enacted in 2015 against the background of the severe security environment surrounding Japan, the scope of the provision of supplies and services by the JSDF to foreign armed forces was expanded. Following the enactment of the legislation, the Acquisition and Cross-Serving Agreements, which set out the settlement procedures and other matters on the mutual provision of supplies and services between the JSDF and foreign armed forces, were developed, and new agreements entered into force with the U.S. in April 2017, with the UK in August 2017, and with Australia in September 2017. Furthermore, in order to develop a foundation for promoting international cooperation in the field of security, Japan is keeping up with efforts to negotiate agreements concerning the transfer of the defence equipment and technologies, which set out provisions on the handling of defense equipment and technologies to be transferred, as well as measures for

the protection of information that will form the basis for the sharing of classified information on security with the relevant countries. Japan also continues negotiations towards the conclusion of a peace treaty with Russia, which is a key issue.

In the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the agreement with India entered into force in July.

(4) Initiatives in the Fields of the Economy and Society

The conclusion and implementation of international agreements that bring legal discipline to cooperative relationships with other countries in the economic sphere is becoming increasingly important in order to promote the liberalization of trade and investment, as well as people-to-people exchanges, and to strengthen the foundations for the overseas activities of Japanese citizens and companies. The agreements that Japan signed or concluded with various countries and regions in 2017 include tax conventions, investment treaties, and social security agreements. Japan also worked on negotiations with the Asia-Pacific region and Europe for Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), actively advancing negotiations on broader regional economic partnership such as the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) among Japan, China, and the ROK, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, an agreement at the ministerial level on the TPP was confirmed by 11 countries in November. In December, negotiations on the Japan-EU EPA were concluded with an agreement.

Furthermore, with a view of protecting and

enhancing the livelihoods and activities of Japanese citizens and companies, Japan is working on the appropriate implementation of existing international agreements as well as utilizing the dispute settlement system of the WTO.

In social fields such as human rights, fisheries, maritime affairs, aviation, labor and social security, which are closely linked with the livelihoods of the people, Japan actively participates in negotiations to ensure that Japan's position is reflected in international agreements. In addition, in the field of environment, Japan concluded the Nagoya Protocol and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol in May and December, respectively.

(5) Initiatives in the Field of Criminal Justice

The ICC is the first-ever permanent international criminal court for prosecuting and sentencing, in accordance with international law, individuals who have committed the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. Since becoming a State Party to the ICC Rome Statute in October 2007, Japan has consistently supported and cooperated with the ICC's activities in various ways. Fiscally, Japan is the largest contributor to the ICC, accounting for approximately 16.5% of the entire contributions to the Court as of 2017. With regards to human resources, Japan has consistently produced judges since its accession to the ICC. Japan's candidate in the election of ICC judges held in December 2017, Tomoko Akane, Ambassador for International Judicial Cooperation and Public Prosecutor of Supreme Public Prosecutors Office of Japan, was elected. In addition, Hitoshi

Kozaki of the Committee on Budget and Finance was re-elected, Motoo Noguchi continued to serve as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims, and Hiroshi Fukuda continued to serve on the Advisory Committee on Nominations of Judges. These developments demonstrate Japan's active cooperation for the activities of the ICC. As the ICC evolves as a full-fledged international criminal justice institution, it is imperative to secure cooperation with the ICC, establish the principle of complementarity, and to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of its judicial procedures. Japan engages in addressing these challenges through its participation in Assembly of States Parties, including continuing to serve as Co-chair for the Study Group on Governance and Focal Point on for non-cooperation issues.

Besides the aforementioned efforts related to the ICC, in the face of an increase in cross-border crime in recent years, Japan is further working on ensuring the submission of necessary proof from other countries. Japan is also actively engaged in improving legal frameworks for promoting international cooperation in the field of criminal justice. Japan has been working on negotiations toward concluding international agreements as the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (MLAT)³⁵, the Treaty on Extradition³⁶ and the Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons³⁷.

7 Human Rights

(1) Initiatives within the UN

A UN Human Rights Council

The UN Human Rights Council was established in 2006 as a restructured version of the UN Commission on Human Rights, in order to strengthen the UN's ability to address human rights issues, as part of a movement towards mainstreaming human rights in the UN. The Human Rights Council holds sessions throughout the year in Geneva (three regular sessions per year, lasting more than ten weeks in total) to discuss issues and make recommendations concerning the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms. To date, Japan has served as a member of the Council from June 2006 to June 2011 (the first and the second terms) and January 2013 to December 2015 (the third term). Most recently, Japan was elected in the elections held in October 2016, and currently serves as a member of the Council from January 2017 to December 2019 (the fourth term).

At the high-level segment of the 34th Session in February and March 2017, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takisawa delivered a statement. In his statement, he expressed that with Japan's re-election as a member of the Human Rights Council, it will continue to put effort into promoting diplomacy that places importance on fundamental values such as freedom, democracy, basic human rights, and the rule of law, while improving the human rights and humanitarian situation in the world.

³⁵ A legal framework that allows for an efficient and prompt cooperation with legal authorities of other countries in criminal investigation and procedures.

³⁶ A legal framework having comprehensive and detailed provisions regarding the extradition of criminals to enable more effective cooperation for repressing crime.

³⁷ A legal framework aiming to facilitate the social rehabilitation of foreign prisoners by giving them the opportunity of serving their sentences in their own countries.

Special Feature

Adoption of the Resolution on “Advisory Services and Technical Assistance for Cambodia” at the 36th Session of the UN Human Rights Council

On September 29, 2017 (local time), the Resolution on “Advisory Services and Technical Assistance for Cambodia,” submitted by Japan as the main proposing country, was adopted by consensus (without a vote) at the 36th Session of the UN Human Rights Council held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Japan has been submitting this resolution to the UN Human Rights Council since 1999.

The resolution, which aims to provide support for further efforts by the Government of Cambodia to improve the human rights situation, has been adopted by consensus every time.

This latest resolution reflects the concerns of the international community for the recent human rights situation in Cambodia, and calls for the UN Secretary-General to report on the human rights situation in the country, in writing, at the Human Rights Council to be held in March 2018. The resolution also incorporates the decision to extend the term of office of Special Rapporteurs for human rights in Cambodia, and to continue providing support for positive efforts by the Government of Cambodia to improve the human rights situation in the country.

Towards the submission of this resolution, Japan held human rights dialogues with the Government of Cambodia in the capital Phnom Penh in August 2017, and worked tirelessly to exchange views with ASEAN, Europe and the U.S., and civil society. Through these efforts, it aimed to formulate a balanced resolution that takes various opinions into consideration.

Japan is closely monitoring the human rights situation in Cambodia, and expects the adoption of this resolution to contribute to improving the human rights situation in the country.



36th session of the UN Human Rights Council (September 29, Geneva, Switzerland)

Column

The Japanese Who are Active in the Field of Human Rights in the International Community

Serving as a Member of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances

Koji Teraya, Professor, The University of Tokyo

I have been serving as one of the ten members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) for a four-year term starting since July 1, 2017. This is the committee that carries out missions under the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (adopted in 2006, entered into force in 2010), and is currently the newest committee among similar UN human rights treaty bodies.

So far I have attended only one session of the Committee, which holds two sessions every year, and I found that the work at the session proved to be a very intensive experience. As a member of the Committee with an academic background, I sometimes felt lost and confused due to the differences in behavior and approaches between academics and practitioners, and felt anew my fundamental identity as an academic. At the same time, however, I also felt a certain sense of excitement as I was able to apply my accumulation of academic knowledge to practical situations.

In contrast with the normative strength of human rights and our expectations of that, human rights issues call for delicate treatment and complex deliberations of interests in both academic and practical aspects, and it is often the case that conclusions cannot be reached in a careless and thoughtless manner. However, it is obvious that enforced disappearances is one of the most serious criminal offenses; in light of that, I approach the related issues while constantly bearing in mind the simple and clear purpose of “reducing the number of enforced disappearances as far as possible, even if it is just one person.” While there are various issues to deal with, I am particularly interested in a pressing issue faced by the CED, that is, increasing the number of States Parties to the Convention, for example.

Japan is one of the countries taking the lead in addressing the issue of enforced disappearances. This is a reflection of one of the most important challenges in Japan's diplomacy, which is to resolve the issue of abductions by North Korea. It is unfortunate that North Korea is not a State Party to the Convention; hence, this Committee has no capacity to tackle the issue directly. However, usually problems are not solved simply by making loud proclamations about the interests of one's own country, and it is not



desirable to do so. I believe that the interests of an individual country exist within universal interests, while universal interests exist within the interests of an individual country; hence, we should always keep in mind the importance of ensuring harmony and balance between the individual and the whole. I, myself, take great joy in being a part of this large overarching entity.

On Being Elected as a Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Keiko Ko, Professor, Nanzan University



One of the purposes of the United Nations is, “To achieve international cooperation [...] in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion” (Article 1-3, Charter of the United Nations). To that end, it has provided support for the conclusion of many treaties aimed at protecting human rights. Of these, the earliest was the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination adopted in 1965. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) reviews reports submitted by the States Parties and petitions from individuals in accordance with the Convention. I stood for the election (June

2017) for this Committee as the first candidate from Japan. I was successfully elected, winning support from 132 countries. The number of countries that are States Parties to the Convention stands at 179, and during the election campaign that spanned a four-month period, I had the opportunity to meet the representatives from approximately 160 countries. I had aspired to join the United Nations when I was young, so the election campaign that allowed me to meet many people from around the world was an invaluable experience for me, and I reaffirmed my strong conviction that protecting human rights was a universal value.

The main work of CERD is to review the reports submitted by States Parties to the Convention. In accordance with the Convention, we assess if these States Parties are not engaged in acts of racial discrimination, and provide recommendations. As a member of the Committee, I am dedicated to understanding and dialogue. Discrimination is deeply rooted in the hearts of people, and no individual is completely divorced from discrimination. Even if it appears to have been eradicated, discrimination may rear its ugly head once again, and we can see this problem emerging in recent international affairs as well. That is why it is necessary to persevere and put continued effort into eliminating discrimination. As a permanent organization, CERD carries the responsibility of ensuring this continued effort. We sometimes issue strict recommendations to the States Parties, but the nature of criticism is such that simply raising our voices is meaningless if these voices do not reach

the States Parties; in short, changes can only arise in the actions of a State Party if our voices reach them. As a member of the Committee with such a long history behind it, it is my goal to present views that the States Parties will pay attention to.



United Nations Human Rights Council Chamber (Photo: UN Photo/Jean-Marc Ferré)

During the same Session, the Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), co-tabled by Japan and the EU, was adopted without a vote (adopted for ten consecutive years). This resolution condemns in the strongest terms North Korea's ongoing systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations, and urges North Korea to take immediate steps to end all human rights violations, including the abductions issue. In addition, it welcomes the decision of the UN Security Council to hold a Council meeting, during which the situation of human rights in North Korea was discussed, and looks forward to the continued and more active engagement of the UN Security Council on this matter. Furthermore, it decides to strengthen the capability of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), including the field-based office in Seoul, in order to implement the relevant recommendations in the report of the Group of Independent Experts on Accountability for human rights

violations in the DPRK.

At the 35th Session in June, Japan, together with Brazil, Ethiopia, Fiji, and Morocco jointly submitted a resolution on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Persons Affected by Leprosy and Their Family Members, which was adopted without a vote. The number of co-sponsors of the resolution reached as many as 50 countries. This resolution determines the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members in the Human Rights Council for a term of three years, with the aim of protecting the human rights of people around the world who are affected by discrimination issues due to leprosy. Furthermore, it encourages that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and this Special Rapporteur conduct a seminar on leprosy-related discrimination.

At the 36th Session in September, Japan submitted a resolution on the Human Rights Situation in Cambodia, as the main sponsor of the resolution, and this resolution was adopted without a vote. Aimed at continuing to support positive efforts by the Cambodian Government towards improving the human rights situation in Cambodia, this resolution reflects the concerns of the international community on the recent human rights situation in Cambodia, and requests for a written report on the human rights situation in Cambodia to be submitted to the UN Secretary-General at the UN General Assembly in

March 2018. Through this resolution, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for the human rights situation in Cambodia was extended for two years (See Column “Adoption of the Resolution on ‘Advisory Services and Technical Assistance for Cambodia’”).

Japan will continue to be actively engaged in discussions in the UN Human Rights Council to resolve human rights issues in the international community.

The UN Human Rights Council conducts the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) that periodically reviews the human rights situations of all UN Member States. Japan was reviewed for the third time in 2017. In August, ahead of its review, Japan submitted a report concerning its human rights situation to the UN. In November, the third review was carried out in the UPR Working Group. Japan explained its domestic human rights situation as well as initiatives in Japan and abroad, including the Japan-ROK agreement of December 2015 on the issue of comfort women as progress since the previous review (2012). In addition, Japan explained its stance and policy concerning remarks made by each country³⁸.

B The Third Committee of the UN General Assembly

The Third Committee of the UN General Assembly is, along with the Human Rights Council, the UN’s main forum focused on human rights. Generally in October and November, the Committee discusses a wide range of issues, including social development, women, children, racial discrimination, refugees, crime prevention,

and criminal justice, as well as the human rights situations in North Korea, Syria, and Iran, among others. Resolutions adopted by the Third Committee are then adopted by a plenary session of the General Assembly, contributing to the development of international norms.

Every year since 2005, Japan and the EU have co-tabled the Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in DPRK at the UN General Assembly. In 2017, Japan and the EU again co-tabled the resolution at the Third Committee in November and Plenary Session in December of the 72nd session of the General Assembly, which was adopted without a vote. The resolution, based on the UN General Assembly Resolution of 2016 reflecting the final report of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK (COI), condemns the North Korea’s systematic, widespread, and gross human rights violations, and urges North Korea to take measures to end all human rights violations. In addition, the resolution underscores very serious concerns regarding reports of torture, summary executions, arbitrary detention, abductions and other forms of human rights violations and abuses that North Korea commits against citizens from other countries within and outside of its territory. It also condemns North Korea for diverting its resources into pursuing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles over the welfare of its people, and emphasizes the necessity of North Korea to respect and ensure the welfare and inherent dignity of the people in North Korea. As in 2016, it also encourages the UN Security Council to take appropriate actions, including through consideration of referral of the situation in

³⁸ For more details, refer to: http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/fp/hr_ha/page22_002899.html

North Korea to the International Criminal Court (ICC), and consideration of the further development of sanctions.

In addition, Japan also actively participated in discussions on the human rights situations in individual countries, such as Syria, Iran, and Myanmar, as well as discussions on various human rights issues (social development, the rights of the child, and etc.). Japan participated actively in discussions in the international community toward protecting and promoting human rights, in cooperation with civil society, such as by dispatching a female representative of a Japanese NGO to serve as the Alternate Representative of Japan at the Third Committee of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly, as it has done previously.

(2) Initiatives Concerning International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law

A International Human Rights Law

In June 2017, an election for the members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances was held at the Fourth Meeting of States Parties of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances at the UN Headquarters. Japanese candidate Koji Teraya, Professor of the Graduate School of the University of Tokyo, was elected for the first time. Furthermore, in June, an election for the members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was held at the 27th Meeting of States Parties for the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination at the UN Headquarters. Japanese candidate Keiko Ko, Professor of Nanzan University, was elected for the first time.

The Government's periodic reports

on the status of the implementation of the various human rights treaties that Japan has concluded are carefully and thoroughly examined, with reference to the provisions of the relevant treaties. In June, the Government submitted its Fourth and Fifth State Party's reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. In July, Japan also submitted its Tenth and Eleventh State Party's reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

B International Humanitarian Law

In the intergovernmental process on the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in Geneva, Japan participated actively in discussions on strengthening the respect for IHL and on protecting those who have been deprived of their liberty. Moreover, as part of its efforts to promote awareness and understanding of International Humanitarian Law, MOFA dispatched a lecturer to the International Humanitarian Law Moot Court Competition hosted by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as it did in 2016.

(3) Initiatives Undertaken via Bilateral Dialogue

In addition to initiatives within the UN and other multilateral frameworks, Japan recognizes the importance of bilateral dialogues, in order to protect and promote human rights. The 4th Japan-Myanmar Human Rights Dialogue (Nay Pyi Taw) and the 12th Japan-Iran Human Rights Dialogue (Tokyo) were held in February 2017, while the 8th Japan-Cambodia Human Rights Dialogue (Phnom Penh) was held in August. In addition to exchanging information on their respective initiatives in the field of human rights, the participants

in these dialogues exchanged opinions concerning cooperation in multilateral fora such as the UN.

(4) Contribution to Refugee Issues

From the perspective of international contribution and humanitarian aid, Japan started accepting refugees from Myanmar who were temporarily residing in Thailand, under a resettlement program that ran from FY2010 to FY2014 (the transfer of refugees from an asylum country to a third country that agrees to accept them for long-term settlement).

In addition to accepting refugees from Myanmar who were residing temporarily in Malaysia since FY2015, Japan also welcomes the eligible family members of those who are already resettled in Japan, based on the premise of mutual aid with those who remain in Thailand. From FY2010 to FY2017, 152 people from 39 families have come to Japan under this program.

Until now, the main destinations for refugees to be accepted for resettlement have been Western countries. Japan, as the first Asian country to accept resettled refugees, has attracted both high praise and high hopes from the international

community in regard to its proactive efforts to address refugee issues. Amidst a recent increase in the number of individuals applying for refugee status in Japan, Japan is continuing its efforts to provide finely tuned support to those most in need. In addition, while local governments in the Tokyo Metropolitan region have played a central role until now in operations concerning the resettlement destinations for refugees upon their arrival in Japan, proactive efforts will be made moving forward to resettle refugees in municipalities outside of the Tokyo Metropolitan region, from the perspective of promoting nationwide understanding of the refugee issue.

8 Women

(1) G7 Taormina Summit

At the G7 Taormina Summit (Italy), the Leaders' Communique stated the countries' continued commitment towards mainstreaming gender equality in all policies. Furthermore, the G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment was adopted with the aim of promoting the economic empowerment of women and girls.

(2) G20 Hamburg Summit

At the G20 Hamburg Summit (Germany), discussions were held on topics related to the empowerment of women, including digitalization and in the field of the sciences, women's access to training and employment, and scale up support for women entrepreneurs. Based on the discussions, the World Bank and 13 participating countries announced the launch of the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi). We-Fi aims to promote the rapid economic independence and



Resettled refugees in Japan attending the resettlement support program (Photo: Refugee Assistance Headquarters)

participation in the economy and society of women in developing countries, as well as to realize regional stability, prosperity, and peacebuilding, by providing support to women entrepreneurs as well as SMEs owned and led by women in developing countries to help them overcome the various barriers they are confronted with. We-Fi complements and enhances the support for women entrepreneurs that Japan has been providing mainly through bilateral efforts. In addition, Japan announced its intention of contributing 50 million U.S. dollars to the fund, based on the perspective that it is aligned with Japan's policy that aims to realize a "society where women shine" both in Japan and abroad.

(3) World Assembly for Women, "WAW! 2017"

The Fourth World Assembly for Women (WAW! 2017) was held over three days from November 1, 2017. It gathered a total of about 2,400 participants, including 66 top leaders from 21 countries including Japan and eight international organizations, who are active in the field of women. The theme for 2017 was "WAW! in Changing World." Based on this theme, and with a focus on concrete initiatives to support women and the results of these initiatives, discussions were carried out on measures to promote the continued activity and success of women in a changing world, among other themes. Participants engaged in discussions on a wide range of topics, including gender-related initiatives by corporations and international organizations, women's participation in the sciences, role-sharing in unpaid work, women's participation in peace and security, women in the media, and gender equality in natural disasters.



Foreign Minister Kono delivering a speech at the World Assembly for Women WAW! (WAW! 2017) (November 2, Tokyo)



Debates at the World Assembly for Women WAW! (WAW! 2017) (November 2, Tokyo)

Discussions, centered around youths, were also carried out about the future of women's empowerment. On the final day, recommendations for the direction of actions put forward by the participants were summarized and presented in the "WAW!2017 Tokyo Declaration" as the outcome of the three-day discussion.

(4) International Cooperation for the Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries

During the General Debate Session at the UN General Assembly in 2013, Prime Minister Abe announced that the Government would be providing Official Development Assistance (ODA) of more than 3 billion dollars over three years until 2015 for three areas with a focus on the empowerment of women: (1) facilitating women's active participation in society and women's empowerment; (2) enhancing Japan's efforts in the area of women's health care as a part of the Strategy on Global

Health Diplomacy; and (3) supporting women's participation and protecting their rights in the area of peace and security. These have been fully implemented. In May 2016, the Government announced the "Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment," formulated as one of the new thematic policies under the Development Cooperation Charter, and declared that measures would be implemented to train about 5,000 female government administrative officials and to improve the learning environment for about 50,000 girls over the three years from 2016 to 2018. At the Third World Assembly for Women (WAW! 2016) held in December the same year, Prime Minister Abe promised to provide support amounting to more than 3 billion US dollars for women in developing countries until 2018 focusing on: (1) promoting women's and girls' rights; (2) creating an enabling environment for women and girls to reach their full potential; and (3) advancing women's leadership in politics, economics, and other public fields. These measures are being steadily implemented.

(5) Initiatives in the UN

A United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

The 61st session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women was held in March, and Japan sent a delegation consisting of Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takisawa as the Chief Delegate, Hiroko Hashimoto, representatives from various government ministries, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and NGOs. At the conference, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takisawa chaired the

Ministerial Roundtable and led discussion on the possible measures that can be put in place in order to promote the economic empowerment of women. In addition, he introduced Japan's initiatives on women's economic participation and its relationship with technological progress and innovation, and exchanged views with representatives from the respective countries.

B UN Women

Japan contributed approximately 30 million U.S. dollars in 2016 to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the contributions are used in ways such as empowering Syrian refugee women and measures to counter violent extremism in Africa. In September 2017, Prime Minister Abe, who was on a visit to New York (U.S.) to attend the 72nd UN General Assembly, participated in the ceremony for the unveiling of the IMPACT 10x10x10 Parity Report of the HeForShe campaign organized by UN Women. In addition to introducing Japan's initiatives on promoting women's empowerment and the results of these efforts, he also spoke about the World Assembly for Women WAW! (WAW! 2017), and called for participants to connect through WAW! and work together with Japan to realize a "society where women shine" throughout the world. At UN Women, the HeForShe Campaign has been implemented to call for the involvement of men and boys in gender equality. Prime Minister Abe was selected as one of ten state leaders to champion the acceleration of the campaign. Japan plans to continue to deepen its cooperation with the UN Women.

Column

WAW! in Changing World**- Special Event on Women's Empowerment with focus on Women Entrepreneurs -**

On November 1, 2, and 3, the Government of Japan hosted the World Assembly for Women (WAW! 2017) which marked the fourth WAW! event since its launch. The event welcomed 66 speakers from 21 countries and eight international organizations, as well as a total of about 2,400 participants.



Based on the theme “WAW! in Changing World,” WAW! 2017 placed the focus on concrete initiatives to support women and the outcomes of these efforts, and discussions were held about the measures to ensure that women continued to play an active role in the changing world. The “WAW!2017 Tokyo Declaration” including recommendations for action-oriented measures from participants was drawn up and presented as the outcome of the discussions over the three days.

This section provides an overview of the special event, “Women’s Empowerment,” held on the third day of WAW! 2017.

Prime Minister Abe delivered the opening speech and emphasized the Government’s commitment towards promoting women’s empowerment as well as its achievements. He also expressed Japan’s strong support for the “Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative” (abbreviated as “We-Fi”), whose launch was announced by the World Bank and participating countries at the G20 Hamburg Summit this year, and reaffirmed Japan’s intention to provide support of 50



Prime Minister Abe and Advisor to the President of the U.S., Ivanka Trump (November 3, Tokyo, Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

million U.S. dollars towards the initiative, with mentioning the positive impact that women entrepreneurs have on the development of the global economy. Following that, a special speech was given by Ms. Ivanka Trump, Advisor to the President of the U.S. She pointed out that while the economic participation of women is beneficial and meaningful to society, at the same time, the job of full-time homemakers is just as important; hence, all women are “working women.” She also expressed her hopes for the realization of a society that women can embrace both the dignity of work and the gift of flourishing families. Furthermore, she touched on the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education for women in an era of technological innovation and noted that assistance should be given to societies where women are prevented from reaching their full potential, and spoke about the importance of supporting women entrepreneurs

in developing countries from this perspective.

Foreign Minister Kono presented some examples of successful Japanese women entrepreneurs and touched on the difficulties that entrepreneurs face in procuring financing and acquiring specialized knowledge. He emphasized the importance of We-Fi, which aims to provide support to entrepreneurs in overcoming these barriers.

Next, CEO of the World Bank, Georgieva, talked about the current status and challenges concerning access to funds for women in developing countries. For example, she explained that there are 35 countries in the world where married women are unable to inherit real estate, and 17 countries in the world where women are unable to leave the home unaccompanied and without the permission of their husbands. Furthermore, there are about 2 billion people in the world who are unable to acquire loans or other forms of financing when starting a business, and there are also people who do not even have a bank account. More than 60% of these people are women. CEO Georgieva described these current conditions, and emphasized that support to women through We-Fi can contribute to economic development. She also stated that the World Bank will continue to promote initiatives to support women entrepreneurs.



Kristalina Georgieva



Foreign Minister Kono

After the speeches, a panel discussion entitled “Supporting Women Entrepreneurs” was held. Vice Chair of Goldman Sachs Japan Co., Ltd, Kathy Matsui, served as the moderator for this discussion, with the participation of seven panelists: Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia, Susi Pudjiastuti; Founder & CEO of UNICAL International, Inc., Kaori Sasaki, Founder & CEO of ewomen, Inc.; CEO of Fair Trade (Korea), Miyoung Lee; Founder and CEO of The Job Factory (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Patricia Veringa-Gieskes; Vice President of Blended Finance and Partnerships of the International Finance Corporation,

Nena Stoilkjovic; and, CEO and Creative Director of aeru, Rika Yajima. To kick off the discussion, Ms. Matsui commented that investing in women contributes to economic growth. Then, the panelists shared their experiences of the challenges and difficulties that they had faced and overcome when they started their businesses, and engaged in discussion about the approaches taken by governments and international organizations in providing support to women entrepreneurs.

Minister Susi addressed the importance of active financial assistance provided by governments when entrepreneurs start up their businesses, explaining her actual

experiences in utilizing SME funds to expand her own business. At the same time, she also spoke about the need for women to demonstrate their own capabilities without any restraint, while making use of education and mentoring. With regard to the procurement of funds when starting a business, Ms. Lee also talked about the need for a platform that facilitates the exchange of views and sharing of resources among women entrepreneurs of various generations, based on her own experience of a lack in funding, business plans, human resources, and networks when she started her business. Ms. Veringa-Gieskes explained that poorly developed legal systems were another stumbling block in addition to financing when starting a business in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She appreciated the We-Fi initiative highly, and made concrete suggestions to assist entrepreneurs more effectively by including women entrepreneurs as executive officers in financing institutions, disseminating information about assistance offered by the government and support organizations, and establishing incubation centers which enable to resolve the problems women entrepreneurs face.

Ms. Stoiljkovic spoke about access to funds as a common barrier for women entrepreneurs in the world, and pointed out the importance of considering deregulation in order to solve the problem of collateral, and of eliminating discrimination against women that prevents them from working without permission from their husbands. In this regard, Ms. Yajima also recommended reducing corporate tax on entrepreneurs immediately after the launch of their businesses, with a view to business advancement and growth, and legalizing the retention of the respective family names of husband and wife so as to reduce the burden on women to change their family names. Ms. Sasaki, who had been subjected to discrimination as a female company president, shared her experience of overcoming discrimination by changing the ways in which she talks and delivers presentations. She also spoke about the importance of establishing women entrepreneurs-friendly work policies, and having all members of the community support women entrepreneurs by purchasing the products or using the services provided by their businesses.



Scene at the panel discussion entitled "Supporting Women Entrepreneurs," at the special event of WAW! 2017 (November 3, Tokyo)

C Dealing with sexual violence

Sexual violence as a tactic of war must not be overlooked, and it is important to put an end to impunity for perpetrators and to support victims of violence. To make the 21st century a world with no human rights violations against women, Japan is actively engaging in efforts in this field,

and places importance on cooperating with international organizations including UN Action and Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as participating in international discussions.

In 2017, Japan provided financial support of 1 million U.S. dollars to the Office of the

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, contributing to strengthening the police and judicial capabilities of states concerned. Furthermore, Japan continues to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Victims of the International Criminal Court, earmarking approximately 550,000 Euros out of a cumulative contribution of about 750,000 Euros for victims of sexual and gender-based violence. Through such contributions, Japan engages in efforts to support victims of sexual violence in conflicts.

D Initiatives in Japan

In order to realize a peaceful society more effectively, it is important to secure women's participation in all stages in conflict

prevention, conflict resolution, and peace keeping and peacebuilding with integration of gender perspective. Japan formulated national action plan to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and other relevant resolutions on women, peace, and security. The action plan has been effective since 2016, and monitoring and evaluating of the implementation is conducted. The second annual report will be published by the end of FY 2017.

E Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Since 1987, Japan has continued to provide members for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Currently, Yoko Hayashi (lawyer) serves as a member of the Committee.