

**Video Message by Prime Minister KISHIDA on
Japan's candidature for the UN Security Council 2023-2024**

December 2021

After the Second World War, Japan started anew as a peace-loving nation. Becoming a member of the United Nations signified Japan's return in a true sense to the international community. Ever since, Japan has lent its ear to the voices of different countries and people, and together, have made progress on various initiatives at the United Nations.

Conflict and violence are still prevalent in the world. Threats to peace and security are no longer limited to traditional threats which the Security Council has dealt with in the past, but are becoming increasingly complex and diverse. The adverse effects of COVID-19 and climate change, or how we can get more women's participation in building peace, are a small part of the mounting challenges. As the global structure changes, we have the imperative to put our forces together, emphasizing not only the security of states, but of each and every individual. In this vein, "human security," a concept that Japan has held close to heart, should prove to be a useful guide.

I am from Hiroshima, the site of the atomic bombing. My resolve for world peace and a world free of nuclear weapons is rooted in my unwavering conviction. Japan is ready and determined to once again take a seat at the Security Council, so that Japan can actively work for international peace and security and utilize all of our knowledge and experience to contribute to the world and humanity.

I sincerely ask all of you for your strong support for Japan.