

**Statement by Ambassador Toshiro OZAWA
Representative of Japan
to Main Committee II of the
2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

Mr. Chairman,

The Japanese delegation congratulates you on assuming the Chair of this very important Main Committee II, and reassures you of our delegation's fullest support to you so that together with my fellow colleagues we can conclude our deliberations with fruitful outcomes.

Needless to say, the NPT regime continues to be the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and also the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. However, in the past five years since the last Review Conference in spite of the strenuous efforts by the international community, the NPT regime has been facing serious challenges which could undermine our confidence in the NPT. Japan strongly believes that all States need to redouble their non-proliferation efforts in order to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy while minimizing threats posed by possible nuclear proliferation.

I wish to share with you and our fellow colleagues Japan's position on issues that we believe need to be addressed in this Committee.

Safeguards

Mr. Chairman,

A fundamental component of the international non-proliferation regime is the IAEA safeguards. Japan is determined to promote various endeavours to further strengthen the IAEA safeguards.

We first welcome the fact that, since the last Review Conference, more than 20 States have concluded the Additional Protocol. It is a substantial increase which critically shows that universalization of the Model Additional Protocol is well in progress. We believe that the Model Additional Protocol, along with the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement, should be the

safeguards standard of the NPT as required by article III, paragraph 1 of the Treaty. Japan believes that the Additional Protocol will increase the confidence of the entire international community about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities in States, thus serving as a factor facilitating the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, not as a factor restricting them.

In this context, Japan again urges all States that have not yet concluded both a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and an Additional Protocol to do so as soon as possible. Japan also urges States, where relevant, to adhere to the modified Small Quantities Protocols at the earliest possible time. We call upon relevant States to further work for the promotion of the Additional Protocol, including through the provision of technical assistance for States which consider such assistance necessary. In this regard, Mr. Chairman, in December 2010, Japan established the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) in an attempt to facilitate the ratification and implementation of an Additional Protocol for developing countries.

Japan would like to call on all supplier States to apply this safeguards standard, i.e. a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement reinforced by an Additional Protocol, as a condition for supplying nuclear material, equipment and technology to a recipient country.

At the same time, Mr. Chairman, as described in the working paper of the NPDI (NPT/CONF.2015/PC.I/WP.37), and in light of the importance of collectively addressing the issue of verification, Japan would like to call for a wider application of safeguards to peaceful nuclear facilities in the nuclear-weapon states, and call on them to declare all fissile material no longer required for military purposes to the IAEA to ensure that such material remains for peaceful purposes eternally.

Also, Japan would like to emphasize the importance of promoting more effective and efficient safeguards including through the evolution of safeguards at the State level. Japan is of the position that all States should provide all political, technical and financial support to the IAEA so that it is able to maintain capabilities to fully discharge its responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner.

Export Controls and the UNSCR 1540

Mr. Chairman,

Export controls play a critical role in meeting the nuclear non-proliferation obligations prescribed in paragraph 2 of Article III of the NPT. Since the last NPT Review Conference, some Asian countries have newly introduced or are in the process of introducing comprehensive export control legislation. Given the increasing complexity of illicit procurement activities,

however, it is vitally important that all States make their utmost effort to further strengthen their national export control system including catch-all control.

Japan, recalling Action 36 of the last NPT Review Conference Final Document, encourages State parties to refer to, and align with, the multilaterally negotiated and agreed guidelines and understandings on export controls. Japan is of the view that States that utilize and align with existing guidelines such as the Nuclear Suppliers Group Guidelines, including its Dual-use list, and the Zangger Committee Trigger List, actually find merit not only in enhancing their export transparency and competitiveness, but also in strengthening the non-proliferation regime as a whole.

In this regard, Japan will continue to actively assist other States, especially our partners in Asia, in their efforts to strengthen export control systems including through the Asian Export Control Seminar held annually in Japan since 1993, by emphasizing that export controls create a favorable environment for further economic growth rather than impeding trade and investment.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to effectively counter proliferation, Japan wishes to highlight the importance of fully implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, and will continue to support its smooth implementation through the work of the UNSCR 1540 committee as well as through engagement in various regional seminars and workshops.

North Korea

Mr. Chairman,

In the five years since the previous Review Conference, the DPRK conducted another nuclear test and a series of ballistic missile launches and further developed its nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, especially the 5MWe reactor and uranium-enrichment facility. Most importantly, North Korea has not taken any concrete steps toward its own commitment of abandoning all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear program.

In spite of calls by the international community, North Korea has not yet retracted its announcement of withdrawing from the NPT. North Korea's continued nuclear and missile development constitutes a serious threat to the whole international non-proliferation regime, including the NPT, as well as to the security of the entire international community.

Mr. Chairman and my fellow delegates, these actions by North Korea are just intolerable and we must not allow North Korea to mistake the will of the State Parties of the

NPT.

The Conference should send the following message to North Korea in a clear, decisive and robust manner:

- that we condemn and urge North Korea to stop its continued development of nuclear and ballistic missile programs;

- that we urge North Korea not to take any further provocative actions including nuclear tests and ballistic missile launches;

- that we urge North Korea to promptly take concrete actions to fulfill its own commitments under the September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks;

- that North Korea should fully comply with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, and;

- that North Korea must immediately cease all nuclear related activities, especially the ones in Yongbyon.

It is vitally important that the final document of the Conference sends a clear message to North Korea. Once again, Mr. Chairman, this is not simply an issue for Japan and the neighboring partners in Asia. Rather, on this matter, we believe that the credibility of the whole NPT is at stake.

Iran

Mr. Chairman,

The Iranian nuclear issue is also a matter of concern and interest for Japan. Japan welcomes the political understanding reached by EU3 plus 3 and Iran announced on April 2nd and commend the efforts made thus far by all the negotiating parties. Japan strongly hopes that the on-going negotiation of the EU3 plus 3 with Iran will lead to a final and comprehensive resolution of the issue. Japan believes that such a resolution would have positive impacts on strengthening of the international non-proliferation regime.

Japan understands that work still remains before a comprehensive resolution is achieved. For its part, through high level exchanges with Iran, Japan has been emphasizing the importance of demonstrating flexibility. Japan has also urged Iran to ratify the CTBT and an Additional Protocol without delay. Japan has also urged Iran to fully cooperate with the IAEA in order to provide more confidence to other countries regarding its nuclear activities.

On this point, the importance of the IAEA's work in the fields of verification and monitoring cannot be overemphasized. Japan will continue to support the IAEA in its efforts to

ensure the exclusively peaceful nature of all of Iran's nuclear activities. There are outstanding issues yet to be resolved including the possible military dimensions. Japan urges Iran to fully cooperate with the IAEA in this respect also.

Nuclear Weapon Free Zones and Resolution on the Middle East

Mr. Chairman,

The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, as called for in Action 9 of the 2010 NPT Review Conference Final Document, would contribute to the progress in nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the strengthening of regional and global peace and security. The establishment of such zones should be pursued on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned in accordance with the 1999 Guidelines of the United Nations Disarmament Commission. In this regard Japan welcomes the signature of the Protocol to the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty by the five nuclear-weapon States and the ratification of the protocol by France, the United Kingdom, China and the Russian Federation.

Japan also welcomes ongoing consultations between the States Parties to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone and nuclear weapon States, which would lead to early signature of the Protocol of the Treaty.

Japan strongly supports the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems in accordance with 1995 Resolution on the Middle East as well as the Final Documents of 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences.

Through high-level diplomatic demarches to the States of the region, Japan for its part has been contributing to the efforts to hold an International Conference on this matter in accordance with the 2010 mandate.

Japan highly appreciates positive efforts made so far through the five rounds of consultations among all stakeholders, including countries of the Middle East region, the Conveners and the Facilitator. Japan encourages the stakeholders to reach an agreement on the arrangements for the Conference at the earliest possible date. To this end, Japan will continue to cooperate with all stakeholders and interested states.

Japan calls upon all the Middle East States to participate in the disarmament and non-proliferation regime, including the CTBT, the BWC and the CWC and calls upon Israel to accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon State.

South Asia

Mr. Chairman,

On South Asia, Japan continues to urge India to accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon State promptly and without conditions. We note that Japan and India share the goal of achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. In this context, as a practical first step in implementing disarmament measures, we continue to urge India to maintain its commitment to the moratorium on nuclear tests, and to sign and ratify the CTBT. While Japan appreciates India's constructive role in international efforts to commence early negotiations of an FMCT in the CD, Japan encourages India to declare a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Japan also urges India to maintain and advance its series of commitments and actions in the field of non-proliferation.

Japan also continues to urge Pakistan to accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon State promptly and without conditions, to maintain the moratorium on nuclear tests, to sign and ratify the CTBT, and to continue its efforts to further strengthen its export controls. Japan strongly urges Pakistan to declare moratorium on fissile material production and to join the other 64 Member States of the Conference on Disarmament in agreeing to the immediate commencement of negotiations on an FMCT in the CD. Japan also urges Pakistan to maintain and advance its series of commitments and actions in the field of non-proliferation.

Nuclear Security

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome the progress made in this area in the past five years through various international initiatives.

Japan has made tangible achievements. First, Japan concluded the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material last year. Japan strongly recommends that all States that have not yet done so to conclude the Amendment to bring it into force as soon as possible. Also, Japan received an IAEA IPPAS (International Physical Protection Advisory Service) mission in February this year. Moreover, Japan, in the last Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague, as part of its close cooperation with the United States, announced its pledge to remove all highly-enriched uranium and separated plutonium from a research reactor in Japan, called FCA (Fast Critical Assembly).

In this connection, Mr. Chairman, I wish to stress that Japan firmly remains committed to the principle of not possessing reserves of plutonium without specified purposes. Japan has always implemented appropriate management and utilization of plutonium paying due consideration to the balance between separation and utilization of plutonium and will continue to do so.

Conclusion

To conclude, I would like to mention that Japan wishes to cooperate with you, Mr. Chairman, and our fellow colleagues of the State Parties so that together we can achieve positive outcomes on the issues to be addressed in this Main Committee II.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.