

STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. Nobushige TAKAMIZAWA,  
AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN  
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT  
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)  
- CLUSTER I: SPECIFIC ISSUES: SECURITY ASSURANCES -  
VIENNA, 5 MAY 2017

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to briefly state Japan's position on security assurances.

Recognizing that credible security assurances by the nuclear-weapon States (NWS) to non-nuclear-weapon States (NNWS) would serve as an important intermediary step on the way towards a world free of nuclear weapons, Japan supports the concept of negative security assurances (NSAs).

NSAs are in the legitimate interests of non-nuclear-weapon States. Nuclear-weapon States should make their existing NSA pledges credible to the rest of the world and should provide stronger assurances to non-nuclear-weapon states. At the same time, taking into account the ongoing challenges to peace and security of the international community, these assurances should only be given if the recipient state complies with the NPT.

Mr. Chairman,

We also believe that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, where appropriate, is a practical step to promoting and realizing legally binding security assurances. As noted in Action 9 of the 2010 Final Document, all concerned states, which encompass nuclear- and non-nuclear-weapon states, are encouraged to constructively consult and cooperate to bring about the entry into force of the relevant legally binding protocols of all nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.