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International Organizations in Vienna

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 III PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY-

VIENNA, 9 MAY 2017

Mr. Chairman,

The importance of peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology continues to grow as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) becomes high on our agenda.

In this context, Japan reaffirms the inalienable right to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in conformity with non-proliferation obligations, as stated in the article IV of the Treaty.

The three pillars of the NPT are mutually reinforcing. To maintain and reinforce the NPT regime, it is of great importance to continue our efforts to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

We should be reminded that we reached a consensus ad referendum on the cluster 3 issues in 2015 Review Conference. Thus, Japan sees the necessity to create a robust momentum toward a consensus in 2020 by highlighting the progress in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Mr. Chairman,

Japan commends the remarkable progress in IAEA's activities in this area under Director General Amano's "Atoms for Peace and Development", and welcomes the Agency's focus on assisting its Member States in achieving the SDGs.

In addition to contribution to Technical Cooperation Fund, Japan has been a major supporter to the IAEA's Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) to mobilize additional resources for the Agency's unfunded activities. PUI has been a great success, mobilizing more than 100 million Euro since its establishment in 2010. This endeavor should be further enhanced. Japan, for

its part, has contributed more than 26 million dollars in total to PUI. Since the 2015 Review Conference, in particular, when we Japan announced 5 year commitment of 25 million dollars, we have disbursed more than 13 million dollars to PUI to support a wide variety of projects. The project we supported include emergency assistance to make a quick response to global threats such as Ebola Virus and Zika Virus.

Mr. Chairman,

Japan also places great importance on non-financial contributions to the IAEA's activities such as partnership-building, human resource development and basic radiation education. As part of our support to the IAEA in partnership-building, for instance, Japan invited Director General Amano to the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) last August in Kenya to support awareness raising of the IAEA's activities. The upcoming International Conference on the Technical Cooperation this May is another important opportunity for various development stakeholders to get connected with the IAEA, and our development agency JICA will participate in the Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

Development of civil uses of nuclear energy has been underpinned by efforts of beneficiary countries to ensure the highest standards of safety, security and safeguards with transparency. In relation to this cluster, I would like to stress the importance of achieving and maintaining the highest levels of nuclear safety worldwide.

Development of infrastructure and human resources is essential in ensuring nuclear safety, and we should continue to build on lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident in this regard.

International organizations such as the IAEA and the OECD/NEA play important roles in promoting nuclear safety worldwide through such functions as establishing standards, codes and conducting peer reviews. Japan has been actively engaged in international cooperation centered on these organizations.

For example, Japan is sending national experts to the IAEA's Commission for Safety Standards and related Committees and supporting infrastructure development in countries newly embarking on nuclear power plants with an extra-budgetary contribution to the IAEA. Also, the IAEA's first Capacity Building Center (CBC) was designated in Fukushima in 2013, where workshops on emergency preparedness and responses have been organized for government officials from Japan and abroad. Around 300 people from about 60 countries of the Asia-Pacific and beyond have so far participated in the workshops.

Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) provides another platform for international cooperation in enhancing nuclear safety. We encourage the Contracting Parties of the CNS to commit themselves to working toward further universalization of the Convention as well as an effective and sustainable implementation of the Convention and the principles of Vienna Declaration. Japan actively participated in the recently-held 7th Review Meeting of the CNS and is ready to work on further improvements in the implementation of CNS building on the outcomes of the Meeting. With

regard to the international legal frameworks on nuclear safety, Japan also encourages all the countries to join international nuclear liability instruments toward establishing a global nuclear liability regime.

In the context of expanding international cooperation, while recognizing that responsibility for nuclear power plants rests entirely with that state, we affirm that every stakeholder involved in nuclear technology transfers has a role to play in paying due consideration to nuclear safety in a transparent manner.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, as a leading country in applications of nuclear science and technology, Japan renews its commitment to working together with NPT State parties, the international organizations such as the IAEA and the whole international community for the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.