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SECOND 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 II Nuclear Non-Proliferation

Geneva, 30th April 2018

Mr. Chairman,

Serious nuclear challenges posed by North Korea are another acute reminder that it is necessary to strengthen the NPT regime today. Robust non-proliferation efforts by the whole international community contribute to this end.

North Korea's nuclear and missile program poses a grave challenge to the international nuclear non-proliferation regime.

A nuclear armed North Korea is not, and, will never be accepted. On 27 April, ROK and North Korea announced "the Panmunjeom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula" at the end of Inter-Korean Summit. Japan welcomes a positive development for denuclearization and strongly hopes that this will lead to North Korea's concrete actions to dismantle its all weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles. In this context, Japan urges North Korea to sign and ratify the CTBT to solidify its commitment and will keep a watchful eye on the situation through the US-NK summit to be held within couple of weeks.

In this connection, I must emphasize that Complete, Verifiable, and Irreversible Dismantlement, CVID, of all weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles in North Korea is critical. To achieve CVID, the international community as a whole must maintain the maximum pressure campaign against North Korea. In order to realize the CVID, strict verification is also imperative. Cooperative action by the international society is needed more than ever.

Mr. Chairman,

On the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), we believe that it contributes to strengthening the international non-proliferation regime centered on the NPT and the stability of the Middle East region. Its continued and full implementation is crucial.

With respect to these important regional issues, my delegation would like to make further remarks at the Specific Issue.

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to stress that IAEA Safeguards are the fundamental component of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime. Japan continues to support the IAEA's work to make it more effective and efficient.

Steady implementation of safeguards is the fundamental obligation of respective States and it is essential in ensuring transparency and sustainability of their nuclear activities. Japan remains committed to the implementation of safeguards in good faith as a responsible state.

We welcome the increase in the number of States with the Additional Protocol based on its model. The number of States with the AP has increased by about 40 since 2010. This figure clearly indicates that there is recognition in the international community that the AP is indispensable for securing the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

I would also like to point out that Comprehensive Safeguard Agreement (CSA) and the AP should be recognized as the verification standard under the NPT. Japan believes that the universalization of the AP is one of the most important goals in strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of IAEA Safeguards.

In this respect, we believe it remains our key objective to increase the number of States with the CSA and AP as well as the modified Small Quantity Protocols to the CSA, where applicable. To this end, we emphasize the importance of promoting international cooperation and collaboration among related countries including through capacity building aiming at the universalization of the AP.

At the same time, Japan calls for a wider application of safeguards for civil nuclear facilities in the nuclear-weapon States, and call on them to declare to the IAEA all fissile materials no longer required for military purposes.

I would also like to mention that Japan supports "the Symposium on International Safeguards" which is held every four years at the IAEA. The next one is scheduled to take place November this year.

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. Given the increasingly diversified and sophisticated illicit procurement activities, all States should further strengthen national export controls including catch-all and intangible technology transfer controls.

Japan further encourages States parties to adhere to the Nuclear Suppliers Group Guidelines and the Zangger Committee Trigger List. The guidelines provide a standard for export controls and as such, all States should once again recognize the usefulness of these guidelines as measures for non-proliferation. Japan will cooperate with other partners for the universalization of these guidelines.

Japan strongly believes that enhancing the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 is imperative, especially the obligations on export controls. In this regard, Japan welcomes the adoption of UNSCR 2325, which calls upon all States that have not yet done so to start developing effective national control lists at the earliest opportunity.

In light of North Korea's development of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, it is important that we do not allow any "loopholes" in the export control systems. Introduction of comprehensive domestic export control system and its firm implementation by each state is the key. Japan will continue to actively assist other States, especially in Asia, to strengthen their export control systems including through the Asian Export Control Seminar held annually in Japan since 1993, as well as through the enhancement of the implementation of UNSCR 1540.

Mr. Chairman,

Each State should maintain at all times effective and comprehensive security of all nuclear and radioactive material under its control.

Japan welcomes the recent significant developments in strengthening global nuclear security architecture.

While recognizing the responsibility rests on each State to ensure nuclear security domestically, we further encourage States to take proactive actions, including, responses to emerging threats such as cyberattacks and

insider threats, and, promoting the conclusion of relevant international instruments such as Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) and its Amendment, and International Convention on Suppression of Act of Nuclear Terrorism (ICS/ANT).

Japan has offered various contributions to the international efforts to enhance nuclear security, particularly through the IAEA, which plays a central role in this respect. Nuclear security, together with nuclear safety, is an important foundation for sustainable use of nuclear energy for the peaceful purposes. We believe capacity-building is a key element, and we should pursue a positive approach which generates synergy and positive linkage between measures for strengthening security and promoting the peaceful uses.

Lastly, I wish to highlight two recent developments related to nuclear security. First, the Government of Japan will intensify its efforts to combat nuclear terrorism in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and other major public events. In this connection, this February, upon Foreign Minister Kono's visit to Vienna, Japan and the IAEA signed the Practical Arrangements on Nuclear Security Cooperation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Second, as part of our efforts on facilitating international cooperation, Japan held the plenary meeting of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism in June 2017 in Tokyo. In this meeting, fruitful discussion was conducted among approximately 220 high level government officials from 74 countries and 4 international organizations.

Japan is determined to advance the international cooperation to strengthen nuclear security.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.