



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

**Statement by Ambassador OGASAWARA Ichiro,
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Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference
on Disarmament
At the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the
2026 NPT Review Conference
- CLUSTER I: NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT -
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Mr. Chair,

The NPT is the cornerstone for global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament architecture and for our common efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. Although the 10th NPT Review Conference held last year failed to adopt by consensus a final outcome document due to the objection of only one country, it is extremely significant that NPT State Parties have shown their strong will and commitment to maintain and strengthen the NPT regime, including the launching of the Working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty held last week.

However, the very core values of the NPT regime have been seriously threatened and challenged by the words and actions of the Russian Federation in the course of its aggression against Ukraine, which Japan strongly condemns. It is completely unacceptable that a nuclear weapon state imposes its political will upon a non-nuclear weapon state with a thinly-veiled threat of use of nuclear weapons.

At the G7 Hiroshima Summit in May this year, G7 leaders reiterated their position that threats by Russia of nuclear weapon use, let alone any use of nuclear weapons by Russia, in the context of its aggression against Ukraine are inadmissible.

Mr. Chair,

On the first day of the 10th NPT Review Conference held last year, Japanese Prime Minister KISHIDA put forward his “Hiroshima Action Plan”, highlighting 5 actions as its key elements. These 5 actions were widely echoed in “G7 Leaders’ Hiroshima Vision on Nuclear Disarmament” issued at the G7 Hiroshima Summit and they serve as a solid basis to promote realistic and practical efforts towards a world without nuclear weapons. Here I would like to state Japan’s position on nuclear disarmament based on four of the five actions that are closely related to nuclear disarmament.

First, we must extend the record of the non-use of nuclear weapons. Nuclear-weapon States must honor, not by words, but by actions, their crucial commitment that “a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought”, as stated in the P5 Joint Statement issued in January last year. We believe that it is increasingly important and relevant to discuss ways to reduce nuclear risks. Japan reiterates the necessity to enhance the efforts by nuclear-weapon States and encourages them to promote a meaningful discussion for risk reduction.

Second, is the enhancement of transparency. In this regard, the NPDI has submitted a working paper on enhancing transparency and accountability. This working paper contains a reporting template, which the NPDI has been proposing with concrete elements to be included in the report. This year, the NPDI added new proposals such as the calls for timely submission of reports by nuclear-weapon States and open discussions with non-nuclear weapon States and civil society in an interactive manner. We call on the nuclear-weapon States that have not yet done so to disclose information as outlined in the NPDI working paper, including quantitative information.

Thirdly, the overall decline in global nuclear arsenals achieved since the end of the Cold War must continue and not be reversed. Japan expresses grave concern over Russia’s decision to suspend implementation of the New START and emphasizes the importance of its full implementation. In addition, we encourage all nuclear-weapon States to engage in good faith in dialogue on nuclear disarmament and arms control.

To avoid a possible reversal of the overall decline in global nuclear arsenals, Japan reemphasizes the importance of the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for use in nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices. To keep, and even strengthen a momentum to this purpose, Japan and the Philippines will co-host a high level event during a high level week of the UNGA in September. Japan calls upon also all relevant states to declare or maintain moratoriums on fissile material production for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices pending the entry into force of an FMCT. We also call on nuclear-weapon States to disclose information, including quantitative information, related to the production of fissile material for the said purposes.

Furthermore, Japan urges all states, particularly the remaining States listed in its Annex 2, to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Pending its entry into force, Japan urges all relevant states to declare or maintain existing moratoriums on nuclear weapon test explosions or any other test explosions.

Fourthly, we should redouble our efforts to raise awareness of the realities of the use of nuclear weapons. In this regard, Japan attaches great importance to visits by leaders, youth and others to communities affected by nuclear weapons. I believe that the visit of the leaders of G7 and outreached countries to Hiroshima on the occasion of the G7 Summit in May this year was deeply meaningful.

Mr. Chair,

We must not relent in our continuous efforts towards a world without nuclear weapons. Japan, as the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings during war, has been engaged in practical and concrete measures to advance nuclear disarmament. We stand ready to cooperate with NPT State Parties for our common endeavor.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.