



**Statement by Ambassador ICHIKAWA Tomiko
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament**

**Second 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 of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation architecture, and of our common efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

However, the path towards this common goal is becoming more difficult, given the serious challenges posed to the international security environment, including the use of destabilizing and escalatory rhetoric and acts by the Russian Federation in the course of its aggression against Ukraine.

Against this backdrop, Japan will continue to advance a realistic and practical approach to nuclear disarmament in order to maintain and strengthen the NPT, based on the “Hiroshima Action Plan” that Prime Minister Kishida put forward at the 10th NPT Review Conference held in 2022. I would like to explain the four key actions under the Plan that are related to nuclear disarmament.

First, we must extend the record of the non-use of nuclear weapons. Nuclear-weapon States must honor 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 2022. In this context, it is also increasingly relevant to discuss ways to reduce nuclear risks. Japan encourages nuclear-weapon States to promote meaningful discussions regarding risk reduction.

Second is enhancing transparency. The NPDI has submitted an updated working paper on enhancing transparency and accountability. We call on those nuclear-weapon States that have not yet done so to disclose relevant information as outlined in the NPDI working paper, including comparable and numerical information.

Third, the overall decline in global nuclear arsenals achieved since the end of the Cold War must continue and not be reversed. To this end, Japan emphasizes 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 (FMCT). Japan will continue to make every effort to enhance political attention and expand support for the immediate commencement of negotiations on an FMCT.

Japan also calls upon all relevant states to declare or maintain moratoria on fissile material production for the aforementioned purposes, pending the entry into force of an FMCT.

Furthermore, Japan urges all states to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, particularly the remaining States listed in Annex 2. Pending the CTBT's entry into force, Japan urges all relevant states to declare or maintain existing moratoria on any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion. We also reaffirm the need to fully support the work of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission to complete the verification regime through international cooperation.

Fourth, 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 other invited countries to Hiroshima on the occasion of the G7 Summit in May last year was deeply meaningful.

Mr. Chair,

As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings during war, Japan has been promoting practical and concrete measures to advance nuclear disarmament. We stand ready to further cooperation with NPT States Parties to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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