

15th Annual Meeting of APSN, at Krabi , November 5-6, 2024

On behalf of the Government of Japan, I would like to express again our deep gratitude to the Government of Thailand, especially the Office of Atoms for Peace (OAP), for hosting the 15th APSN meeting in this beautiful Krabi. I am delighted that we were able to have very open and fruitful discussions over the past two days on a wide range of topics, including the implementation of safeguards and capacity building. We all together have reaffirmed the value of APSN.

Japan attaches importance to the use of nuclear power plants from the perspective of energy security and decarbonization. Under the policy of sustainable use of nuclear energy with the highest priority on its safety, Japan has been working on restarting nuclear power plants, extending its operation periods, and conducting research and development of next-generation advanced reactors.

As a result, Japan has placed the highest priority on IAEA safeguards - a total of 295 inspections, 70 DIVs, and 28 complementary accesses were carried out in 2023. As a result of Japan's relevant efforts over the years, the IAEA has been drawing a Broader Conclusion for Japan's nuclear activities every year since 2004. It proves that the peaceful nature of Japan's nuclear activities is assured on the highest level under Integrated Safeguards.

As I mentioned in my speech at 15th anniversary session yesterday, it is expected that the use of nuclear energy grows in the Asia Pacific region. In order for this growth, building trust through IAEA safeguards is essential. Japan will contribute to this region's activity in the following two points based on our experience and knowledge gained through such close communications and engagements we are conducting with the IAEA.

First, Capacity Building. Japan is continuously providing various seminars, training courses and workshops for SSAC (State System of Accounting for

and Control) experts in cooperation with the JAEA/ISCN, JSGO and IAEA. For example, as ISCN introduced in WG2 session, we offer variety of safeguards training course including SQP SSAC course, SQP course, NDA course and so on. In order to implement our activity more effectively, we welcome any latest needs and comments you may have.

Second, universalization of CSAs and APs, as well as rescission or amendment of SQPs. Japan has been working to promote understanding and universalization of APs and other safeguards agreements, including through the framework of the AP Friends in Vienna.

APSN plays an important role as the regional hub and may give positive impact to other regions.

Japan continues to contribute to APSN by sharing its knowledge and experience in keeping this unique forum needs-based, effective and useful for all of us.

Thank you very much.

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