

The 11th Review Conference of the Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
Intervention by Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs

Thank you, Mr. President,

I am Arfiya ERI, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. On behalf of the Japanese delegation, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the tireless efforts by you, Mr. President, your team and the Secretariat to expeditiously circulate the revised draft outcome document, and for your skillful steering of our deliberations towards consensus.

I would like to share Japan's views on the designated preamble paragraphs of the draft outcome document.

Firstly, Japan expresses its support for PP1. In the General Debate, Japan stressed the importance of reaffirming our commitment to the NPT at this Review Conference. Many delegations have underscored the importance of the Treaty as the cornerstone of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and renewed their commitment. PP1 is an essential paragraph as the basis of commitments by States Parties to the three pillars of the NPT: nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Regarding PP2, Japan believes that the historic achievement the NPT has played in the past five decades deserves the commendation. As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings during war, it is Japan's solemn mission to lead international efforts towards a world without nuclear weapons. We therefore welcome the clear articulation of such a resolute determination in this paragraph.

Japan also welcomes the inclusion of PP3, reaffirming that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, and PP4, recognizing the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons. This is language that Japan has consistently attached importance to and has advocated for.

Mr. President,

Distinguished delegates,

There remain significant challenges and a number of points on which States Parties' views differ, sometimes widely. However, our common mission is to present to the world our shared commitment toward a world without nuclear weapons. This, I believe, is the very reason we are assembled here.

In the message addressed to this Review Conference, Prime Minister Takaichi called on all delegations to make this Conference a first step towards dialogue to break the vicious cycle of mistrust surrounding nuclear weapons.

In these remaining days, let us once again recall our shared objective and work together to reach consensus. In doing so, I also renew our commitment to this objective and my delegation's steadfast support to the President.

I thank you, Mr. President.

End.