

# Chapter 3

## Japan's Foreign Policy to Promote National and Global Interests

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## Section 1

# Efforts for Peace and Stability of Japan and the International Community

### 1 National Security Initiatives

#### (1) “Proactive Contribution to Peace” Based on the Principle of International Cooperation

The security environment surrounding Japan is becoming more testing and uncertain at a remarkably faster speed. Changes in the balance of power in the international arena are accelerating and becoming more complex, and uncertainty over the existing order is increasing. Against such a backdrop, inter-state competitions are prominently emerging, in which states seek to shape global and regional order to their advantage as well as increase their influence. What is more, in the international community, there is a broadening and diversifying array of security challenges that cannot be dealt with by a single country alone. With respect to space and cyber domains, establishing international rules and norms has also been a security agenda. In the maritime domain, there have been cases where a country unilaterally claims its entitlements or take actions based on its own assertions that are incompatible with existing international order. These have generated undue infringement upon freedom on the high seas. Given that national security has been expanding its scope to economic and technological fields in recent years, the enhancement of efforts regarding the security policy in these fields is necessary. The

proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, as well as escalating international terrorism, remain grave challenges for the international community. Against such a background, qualitatively and quantitatively superior military powers are concentrating in the areas surrounding Japan, where clear trends are observed in further military buildup and an increase in military activities.

Facing such a security environment and other factors, it has become indispensable for Japan to make more proactive efforts in line with the principle of international cooperation. Japan cannot secure its own peace and security by itself, and the international community expects Japan to play a more proactive role for peace and stability in the world, in a way commensurate with its national capabilities. Japan will continue to adhere to the course that it has taken to date as a peace-loving nation, and as a major player in world politics and the economy, contribute even more proactively to securing peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community, and achieve its own security as well as peace and stability in the region, as a “Proactive Contributor to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation.

## (2) Enforcement of the “Legislation for Peace and Security,” and Initiatives Based on the Legislation

In order to adapt to the changes in the security environment surrounding Japan and to secure the lives and peaceful livelihood of its people, it is important to advance vibrant diplomacy to create a stable and predictable international environment. In addition, it is important to enable seamless responses to any situation, and to contribute even more proactively to the peace and stability of the international community under the policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation. To achieve these objectives, the Legislation for Peace and Security” took effect in March 2016.

This legislation aims to solidify Japan’s orientation as a peace-loving nation, including adherence to its exclusively defense-oriented policy. Moreover, the legislation strengthens the Japan-U.S. Alliance and enhances the deterrence capability of Japan, thus enabling Japan to prevent conflicts preemptively, and to further contribute to the international community.

Japan has taken advantage of a variety of opportunities to thoroughly explain the “Legislation for Peace and Security” to foreign countries. Not only the U.S., but also a number of countries and organizations including Australia, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States, European countries, Central and South American countries, and the UN have expressed their understanding and support for this legislation. This clearly demonstrates that the “Legislation for Peace and Security” is legislation that contributes to the peace and security of the world.

## (3) Territorial Integrity

Maintaining territorial integrity is a fundamental responsibility of the Government. Japan’s policy to resolutely protect its land, sea, and airspace remains unchanged. Japan will continue to maintain its stance of responding firmly but in a calm manner. Based on this, the relevant government

agencies are working in close cooperation to advance measures to ensure a seamless and adequate response to any form of unlawful acts. At the same time, the Government of Japan engages in proactive efforts to promote awareness of Japan’s position on terrestrial integrity among the international community, making use of the contacts and knowledge of our diplomatic missions overseas.

## 2 Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

### (1) Overview of Japan-U.S. Security Relationship

Under the security environment surrounding Japan, which is becoming increasingly severe and uncertain at a remarkably rapid pace, it is indispensable to strengthen the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and to enhance the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. Alliance not only for the peace and security of Japan, but also for the peace and stability of the Indo-Pacific region. The Japan-U.S. Alliance has become more solid than ever under the relationship of trust between their leaders. Given this, Japan and the U.S. are further enhancing their deterrence and response capabilities under the Guidelines and the Legislation for Peace and Security. Through such efforts, Japan and the U.S. have been expanding and strengthening cooperation in a wide range of areas, including ballistic missiles defense, cyberspace, space, and maritime security. Japan and the U.S. have been working closely on the realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan, including the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Futenma and of approximately 9,000 U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa to Guam and other locations in order to mitigate the impact on local communities, including Okinawa, while maintaining the deterrence of the U.S. Forces in Japan.

## (2) Japan-U.S. Security and Defense Cooperation in Various Fields

### A Efforts Under the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation

The Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation, which were announced at the April 2015 meeting of the Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (“2+2”), reviewed and updated the general framework and policy direction of Japan-U.S. defense cooperation. Through the Alliance Coordination Mechanism (ACM) established under these Guidelines, Japan and the U.S. have shared information closely, established a common understanding of the situation, and provided “seamless” responses from peacetime to contingencies. In the “2+2” meeting held in April 2019, four cabinet-level officials from Japan and the U.S. concurred that the Japan-U.S. Alliance serves as the cornerstone of peace, security, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and that Japan and the U.S. will work together to realize a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific,” and to strengthen cooperation in cross-domain operations such as improving capabilities in non-conventional domains that include space, cyberspace, and the electromagnetic spectrum. They also affirmed that cyberattacks could, in certain circumstances constitute armed attacks, for the purposes of Article 5 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. Also at the meeting, the Ministers reaffirmed that Article 5 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty applies to the Senkaku Islands and that both nations oppose any unilateral action that seeks to undermine Japan’s administration of these islands. There have been active interpersonal exchanges between high-level officials, with visits to Japan by Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Richardson in January, Commandant of the Marine Corps General Neller in March, Acting Secretary of Defense Shanahan in June, Secretary of Defense Esper and Commandant of the Marine Corps General Berger in August, Commander of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Admiral Davidson in October, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General

Milley in November. In addition, the Japan-U.S. Extended Deterrence Dialogue was held in June and December, in which Japan and the U.S. had candid discussions about ways to secure the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. Alliance. Through these multilayered efforts, Japan will continue to promote security and defense cooperation with the U.S., further enhancing the deterrence and response capabilities of the Alliance.

### B Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD)

Japan has been making steady efforts to develop and engage in the production of the BMD system, such as the decision to introduce a ground-deployed Aegis system (Aegis Ashore) reached in 2017, while continuing cooperation with the U.S., which includes the steady implementation of joint development and joint production of the Standard Missile 3 (SM-3 Block IIA) since 2006. Japan has been fully prepared to protect the lives and property of its citizens from the threat of ballistic missiles to Japan under any circumstances.

### C Cyberspace

The two countries held the seventh Japan-U.S. Cyber Dialogue in Tokyo in October. Based on the necessity for cross-government efforts by both Japan and the U.S., participants from both sides had a follow-up discussion on matters including the outcome of the sixth dialogue held in July 2018. They also engaged in wide-ranging discussions on Japan-U.S. cooperation in cyberspace, including awareness about the situations, cyber countermeasures in both countries, cooperation in the international arena, and support for capacity building.

### D Space

Japan and the U.S. have held discussions on a wide range of cooperation on space through events such as the Sixth Comprehensive Dialogue on Space, held in July. Japan and the U.S. will continue to cooperate on space security, including through mutual exchanges of information in

the field of Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and others, as well as concrete examinations of cooperation over hosted payloads (which refers to sending equipment and materials for missions along on artificial satellites).

### **E Trilateral and Multilateral Cooperation**

Japan and the U.S. place importance on security and defense cooperation with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region. At the Japan-U.S. “2+2” meeting in April, it was concurred that the U.S., Japan and the Republic of Korea would closely coordinate together. In occasions such as the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in May, the leaders concurred to continue strengthening and expanding networks among allies and friendly nations, including Japan-U.S.-India, Japan-U.S.-Australia, as well as Japan-U.S.-Australia-India networks. In June, the second Japan-U.S.-India Summit Meeting was held and the leaders reaffirmed the critical importance of their trilateral cooperation in efforts to maintain and promote a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.” In particular, the leaders concurred to strengthen cooperation in various fields such as maritime security, security in new domains including space and cyberspace, and quality infrastructure investment. At the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Ministerial in September, the Ministers from the four countries discussed collective efforts to advance a free, open, prosperous, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region.

### **F Information Security**

Information security plays a crucial role in advancing cooperation within the context of the alliance. Based on this perspective, both countries continue to hold discussions designed to enhance their cooperation regarding information security.

### **G Maritime Security**

In forums such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit (EAS), Japan and the U.S. stress the importance of solving maritime issues in accordance with international law. The

Guidelines announced in April 2015 also provide that Japan and the U.S. will cooperate closely with each other on measures to maintain maritime order in accordance with international law, including the freedom of navigation. Additionally, at the “2+2” meeting in April 2019, four cabinet-level officials from the U.S. and Japan confirmed that both countries will jointly strengthen their presence in the region, including through joint exercises and port calls, while cooperating with partners in the region.

### **(3) Realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan**

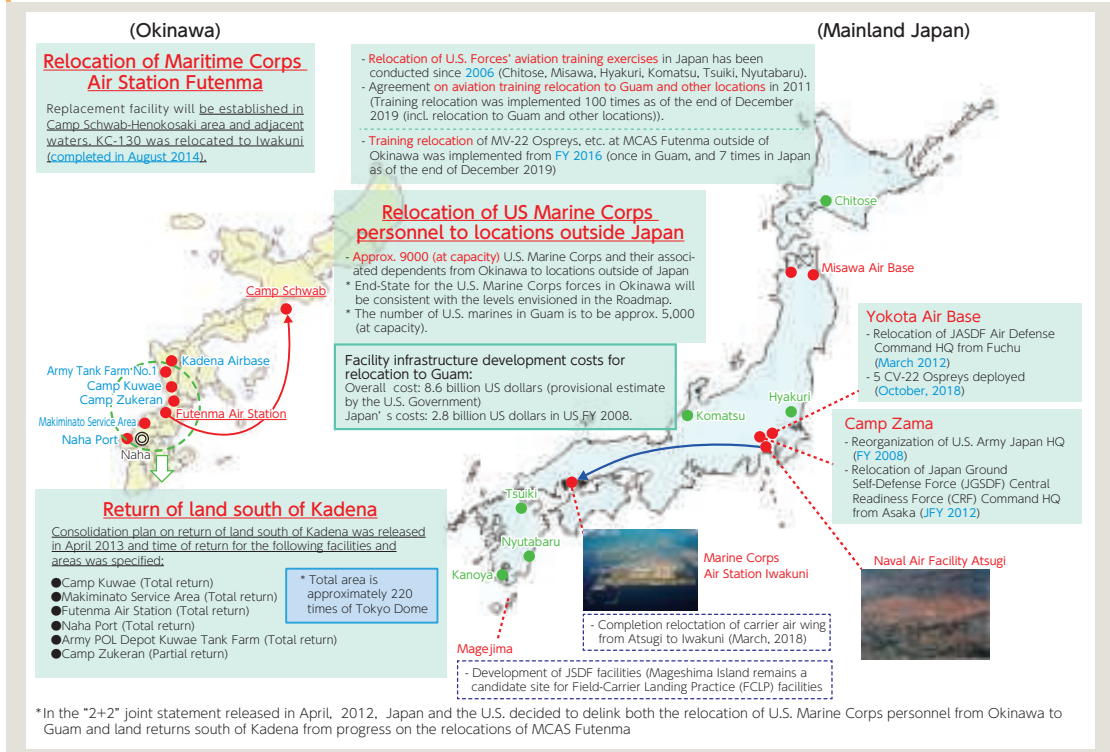
The Government of Japan will continue to make every effort to mitigate the impact on local communities, including Okinawa, by soundly promoting the realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan, including the prompt relocation to Henoko and the return of MCAS Futenma, while still maintaining the deterrence capabilities of said forces.

In the joint statement issued by Japan and the U.S. in February 2017, the two governments affirmed, for the first time in a document at the summit level, that constructing the Futenma Replacement Facility (FRF) at the Camp Schwab-Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution to avoid the continued use of MCAS Futenma. Furthermore, in the “2+2” joint statement in April 2019, the two governments reaffirmed their understanding that the plan to construct the Futenma Replacement Facility (FRF) at the Camp Schwab-Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution that avoids the continued use of MCAS Futenma, and underscored their strong determination to achieve its completion as soon as possible.

Japan and the U.S. will also continue to work closely on the steady implementation of the relocation of approximately 9,000 U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to outside the country such as Guam, which will begin in the first half of the 2020s, and on the return of land south of Kadena based on the April 2013 “Consolidation Plan for Facilities and Areas in Okinawa.”



## Realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan - An Overview



In addition to the return of a major portion of the Northern Training Area (NTA, approximately 4,000 hectares) in December 2017, the return of West Futenma Housing Area of Camp Zukeran (approximately 51 hectares) in March 2018, the return of land along the eastern side of MCAS Futenma (approximately 4 hectares) in July 2017, the return of land along National Route No. 58 in the Makimino Service Area (approximately 3 hectares) in March 2018, and the return of a zone of approximately 2 hectares near Gate 5 in the Makimino Service Area was realized in March 2019. In addition, the rotation deployment of U.S. Marine Corps KC-130 aerial tanker unit to Kanoya Air Field in accordance with the U.S.-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation established in May 2006 started from September 2019. This move will alleviate the impact of increased operations entailing relocation of the KC-130 unit and carrier airwing unit to Iwakuni Air Base.

### (4) Host Nation Support (HNS)

The security environment surrounding Japan is becoming increasingly severe and uncertain at a remarkably rapid pace. From the standpoint that it is important to ensure smooth and effective operation of U.S. Forces, Japan bears the rent for USFJ facilities and areas and the Facility Improvement Program (FIP) funding stipulated within the scope of the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). In addition to this, under the Special Measures Agreement, Japan also bears labor costs, utility costs, and training relocation costs for USFJ.

Based on SOFA and Special Measures Agreement that came into force on April 1, 2016 (effective through fiscal 2020), the Government of Japan bears Host Nation Support (HNS).

### (5) Various Issues Related to the Presence of U.S. Forces in Japan

To ensure the smooth and effective operation of the Japan-U.S. security arrangements and the

stable presence of USFJ as the linchpin of these arrangements, it is important to mitigate the impact of U.S. Forces' activities on residents living in the vicinity and to gain their understanding and support regarding the presence of U.S. Forces. In particular, the importance of mitigating the impact on Okinawa, where U.S. Forces' facilities and areas are concentrated, has been confirmed between Japan and the U.S. on numerous occasions, including the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in April 2018 and the "2+2" meeting in April 2019. The Government of Japan will continue to work to address the realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan. At the same time, the Government of Japan has been making utmost efforts to make improvements in specific issues in light of the requests from local communities. Among these issues are preventing incidents and accidents involving U.S. Forces, abating the noise by U.S. Forces' aircraft, and dealing with environmental issues at U.S. Forces' facilities and areas, including the sound implementation of the Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Stewardship concluded in 2015 and the Agreement on Cooperation with regard to Implementation Practices relating to the Civilian Component of the United States Armed Forces in Japan concluded in 2017. In July 2019, revisions were made to the Guidelines Regarding Off-Base U.S. Military Aircraft Accidents in Japan that provide for entry by Japanese or U.S. personnel into a restricted area to be conducted quickly and in a timely fashion.

April 2019 saw the launch of the second TOFU: Think of Okinawa's Future in the U.S. program, which sent 24 high school students, university students, and other young people from Okinawa to the U.S. This program aims to provide an opportunity for young people from Okinawa to witness for themselves what the U.S. is truly like, and the role that Japan plays in the international community, as well as to promote mutual understanding by having them interact with local important officials and young people in English (see the Column on page 178).

## (6) United Nations Command (UNC) and U.S. Forces in Japan

Coincident with the start of the Korean War in June 1950, the United Nations Command (UNC) was established in July of the same year based on UN Security Council resolution 83 in June and resolution 84 in July. Following the cease-fire agreement concluded in July 1953, UNC Headquarters was relocated to Seoul, South Korea in July 1957, and UNC (Rear) was established in Japan. Established at Yokota Air Base, UNC (Rear) currently has a stationed commander and four other staff and military attachés from nine countries who are stationed at embassies in Tokyo as liaison officers for UNC. Based on Article 5 of the Agreement Regarding the Status of the United Nations Forces in Japan, UNC may use the U.S. Forces' facilities and areas in Japan to the minimum extent required to provide support for military logistics for UNC. At present, UNC is authorized to use the following seven facilities: Camp Zama, U.S. Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, U.S. Fleet Activities, Sasebo, Yokota Air Base, Kadena Air Base, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, and White Beach Area.

In May 2019, General Abrams, Commander of the UN Command, the Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea made a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Kono, where the two sides reaffirmed the long-running partnership between Japan and the UNC. A joint board was then held in July between the Government of Japan and UNC that marked the first time in over 60 years that any substantial discussions had been held between the two sides over matters not concerning the usage of facilities and areas. The meetings saw discussions held over the situation on the Korean Peninsula, with the two sides reaching an agreement on notification procedures in case of unusual occurrences related to the United Nations Command Forces in Japan. The Government of Japan will continue to work closely with the UNC.

## Column

## TOFU: Think of Okinawa's Future in the U.S.

Since 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been sending high school and university students who will be the future leaders of Okinawa to the U.S. under the Think of Okinawa's Future in the U.S. (TOFU) program. This program aims to nurture those who can think about Japan-U.S. relations from a global perspective, and play an active role in the international community. In the second round of this program held in March 2019, 24 students representing Okinawa Prefecture visited Washington D.C. and New York for about one week. This column features the voices of the participants.

**Yamauchi Kento**

In Washington D.C., we visited the U.S. Department of State where we experienced what it was like to be a diplomat through a role-playing activity. We were divided into teams representing the Japanese Embassy and the U.S. Embassy with a scenario in which a volcanic eruption or demonstration has occurred in a certain country. Our task was to figure out how we would evacuate and rescue the citizens of our own countries. It was very difficult to come up with the best solution within the time limit, and all the students were puzzled over the task. However, we enjoyed working on it, and it was a very valuable experience. We also visited the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the National Archives, and the Embassy of Japan in the U.S. Furthermore, we interacted with local high school students, and made presentations about the culture and attractiveness of Japan and Okinawa, covering topics such as karate, traditional Ryukyu dance, tea ceremony, and kanji. In New York, after listening to talks by Ambassador Bessho, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN, and Mr. Komatsubara, TICAD Programme Adviser at the Regional Bureau for Africa of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), we met with Ambassador Kennedy, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan. We expressed our opinions and asked questions about the U.S. military bases in Okinawa. Since views on the issue vary from generation to generation in Okinawa, citizens of Okinawa too understand that the removal or relocation of the bases has been a very difficult problem. Ambassador Kennedy stated that the U.S. military is always looking for the best solution, and I felt that there is a need to transform the presence of the bases into Okinawa's strength.

After the program, we brought our experiences back to Okinawa and shared our new knowledge through social media. We also gave presentations at our schools. Since the TOFU experience, I have begun watching the news and reading newspapers more frequently.

The experience of meeting people I would definitely not have been able to meet in my daily life and being able to exchange views with them has become something I will never forget.

**Tamaki Yurino**

Through this program, I experienced the joy of being able to communicate our thoughts and views directly to those who play an active role on the frontlines of politics, including Ambassador Kennedy, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan. Moreover, I gained a solid sense of what it is like to be involved in politics and social issues, which seemed very far from my personal life. What left a particular impression on me was raising questions at the White House and the exchange with Ambassador Kennedy. Our visit to the U.S. coincided with when the White House petition website was receiving many signatures to oppose the relocation of the U.S. military base to Henoko. I had been cynical about whether these signatures were actually reaching the intended authorities, but they had in fact been delivered. I realized that efforts are also being made overseas to consider and do something about this issue. Ambassador



TOFU program participants visiting the Department of State (March 21, Washington D.C., U.S.)



Kennedy places importance not only on political issues, but also on traditional culture as well as exchanges between high school students of Okinawa and the U.S. Her obvious and heartfelt love for Okinawa made me feel a sense of affinity with her.

Through this experience, I strongly felt that Okinawa is an island to be proud of. That is precisely why I feel that, by sharing Okinawa's strengths and issues, I could gain various perspectives and contribute to realizing a better future for Okinawa. I will never forget all the things I have learned through this program, and I will continue to put my best efforts into doing everything I can for Okinawa.



TOFU program participants paying a courtesy call to Ambassador Kennedy, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, and exchanging opinions with her (March 25, New York, U.S.)

### 3 Global Security

#### (1) Regional Security

The security environment surrounding the Asia-Pacific region is becoming increasingly severe for various reasons such as the shift in the global power balance. Meanwhile, it would be difficult to say that the framework of regional security cooperation is sufficiently institutionalized because of the diversity of political, economic, and social systems in the region. Therefore, Japan has been making efforts to realize a desirable regional security environment for Japan, by strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance, and combining bilateral and multilateral security cooperation at multifaceted and multilayered levels. Japan is also striving to achieve a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” from the perspective of promoting the stability and prosperity of the extensive region stretching from the Asia-Pacific, passing through the Indian Ocean, to the Middle East and Africa, by treating this region as an integrated whole and securing the free and open international maritime order in the Indo-Pacific.

Japan works to further strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance as well as to enhance security cooperation with various other countries in addition to the U.S. In relation to ASEAN Member States, Japan pursues synergy between the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) which was announced

by ASEAN in June 2019, and a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” (FOIP), and contributes to stability and prosperity throughout the Indo-Pacific region. For instance, Japan offers continuous assistance for improving maritime security including through providing the Philippines, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Indonesia, and other countries with patrol boats.

In relation to India, at the first Japan-India Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting (“2+2”) in November, recalling their commitment toward a shared vision of a free, open, inclusive and rules-based Indo-Pacific region, both sides welcomed the significant progress made in the negotiations of Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) and expressed their desire for an early conclusion of the negotiations.

In relation to Australia, regarding the realization of FOIP, the leaders concurred at the Japan-Australia Summit Meetings in June and August to collaborate further in the field of aid for capacity building in maritime security and infrastructure in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Island countries, as well as to promote cooperation on security issues, including the negotiations of the Japan-Australia Reciprocal Access Agreement.

In relation to the UK, at the Japan-UK Summit Meeting in January the leaders welcomed the UK's further involvement in the Indo-Pacific region and concurred on making greater efforts to strengthen cooperation in maritime security and other areas toward achieving FOIP. This was reaffirmed in

December during the Japan-UK Summit telephone call following Prime Minister Johnson's victory in the UK general election.

In relation to France, the ministers at the fifth Japan-France Foreign and Defense Ministers' Meeting ("2+2") in January concurred that Japan and France, which are both maritime and Pacific nations, would promote concrete cooperation toward maintaining and strengthening a free and open Indo-Pacific. Additionally, the Roadmap on Japan-France Cooperation for Opening New Horizons between Japan and France under an "Exceptional Partnership" was issued at the Japan-France Summit Meeting in June. The Roadmap, which was centered on promoting cooperation in a variety of areas, placed maritime security as one of the three pillars of Japan-France cooperation and confirmed both countries' intent to deepen concrete cooperation in the areas of defense and security. Furthermore, the Japan-France ACSA entered into force in June.

In relation to Canada, at the summit meeting in April, the leaders shared the view on strengthening their strategic partnership under the vision of FOIP. In addition, the Japan-Canada ACSA entered into force in July.

In relation to the ROK, based on the recognition of the importance of Japan-ROK support for the U.S.-North Korea process and of Japan-ROK as well as Japan-U.S.-ROK cooperation, the two countries held, *inter alia*, a Japan-ROK Summit Meeting (December), Japan-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meetings (January, February, May, twice in August, September, November, and December), a Japan-U.S.-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting (August) and Meetings of Japan-U.S.-ROK Leading Officials to the Six-Party Talks (March, August, and October). The two sides confirmed that Japan and the ROK, as well as Japan, the U.S. and the ROK, would work closely together.

In addition to strengthening the bilateral cooperation mentioned above, Japan has also been promoting cooperation in the following various frameworks in order to build a network for

peace and prosperity in the region: Japan-U.S.-India Summit Meeting (June), a Japan-U.S.-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting (August), a Japan-U.S.-Australia Ministerial Meeting of the Trilateral Strategic Dialogue (August), and a Japan-U.S.-Australia-India Ministerial (September).

Furthermore, it is also important to enhance the relationship of trust with China and Russia for the stability of the security environment surrounding Japan. The Japan-China relationship is one of the most important bilateral relationships, and Japan is striving to develop stable friendship and cooperation from a comprehensive perspective. As China's military trend is a major concern for Japan, Japan is making efforts to build multilayered channels for dialogue and exchanges in the field of security with China, including the Japan-China Security Dialogue. Alongside such efforts to communicate effectively in the policy aspect, Japan is also encouraging China to improve transparency. The Maritime and Aerial Communication Mechanism between the defense authorities of Japan and China signed in May 2018 has great significance in the sense of promoting mutual understanding and confidence and avoiding unexpected collision. At the same time, Japan is striving to promote mutual relations of trust through high-level dialogues, including between leaders and foreign ministers. Regarding Japan-Russia relations, while holding political dialogues at various levels, including three summit meetings and seven foreign ministers' meetings in 2019, Japan has been energetically continuing negotiations to conclude a peace treaty through the resolution of the issue of attribution of the Four Northern Islands. In the area of security, Security Consultations took place in March and the Japan-Russia Foreign and Defense Ministerial Meeting ("2+2") was held in May. The two countries held candid discussions on defense and security on such occasions as the visit to Japan by the Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation Patrushev in September.

Peace and stability in the Middle East region

is vital to the peace and prosperity of the international community including Japan. The Middle East is one of the world's key energy suppliers and approximately 90% of Japan's crude oil imports rely on the region. It is therefore extremely important to ensure the safety of navigation of Japan-related vessels in this region. Under the rising tensions in the Middle East, attacks on vessels have occurred, including the case in which a Japan-related vessel was damaged in June 2019, and each country is reinforcing its efforts to ensure the safety of navigation by utilizing naval vessels, etc. In light of this, as Japan's independent efforts toward ensuring peace and stability in the Middle East region and the safety of Japan-related vessels, the Government of Japan has made a Cabinet decision on (1) making further diplomatic efforts toward easing tensions and stabilizing the situation in the Middle East, (2) taking thorough measures for ensuring safety of navigation including robust information sharing with relevant stakeholders, and (3) utilizing vessels and aircraft of the SDF for strengthening its information gathering posture. Information gathering activities using SDF vessels and aircraft in the waters of the Middle East began in 2020.

Japan held the first Politico-Military (PM) Dialogue with Jordan (July), as well as the 7th PM Dialogue with Pakistan in June, the 8th PM Dialogue with the Philippines in June, the 17th PM Dialogue with the UK in February, the 17th PM Dialogue with Germany and the 5th PM Dialogue with Cambodia in December. Japan also held the 16th Japan-China Security Dialogue (February) and the seventh Japan-Viet Nam Strategic Partnership Dialogue at the deputy minister level in June.

In addition, Japan has actively participated in and contributed to multilateral frameworks in the region, including the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), in order to strengthen security cooperation in the region. The ARF aims to improve the security

environment of the Asia-Pacific region through dialogues and cooperation on political and security issues. The ARF is an important security dialogue framework in which various entities participate including North Korea and the EU and which focuses on confidence building through various initiatives. At the 26th ARF Ministerial Meeting held in August, where participating ministers candidly exchanged views mainly on regional and international affairs, including the issues of North Korea and the South China Sea. Japan is also making a proactive contribution through, for example, serving as the co-chair of the Inter-Sessional Meetings (ISM) on Maritime Security twice to date.

Furthermore, in addition to government-to-government dialogues (track 1), Japan actively utilizes frameworks where participants from both public and private sectors (track 1.5) exchange opinions and explain their security policies. Japan participates in various conferences, including the IISS Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue) (Singapore). Also, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki Keisuke attended the Regional Security Summit (Manama Dialogue) (Bahrain) in November, and Foreign Minister Motegi attended the Munich Security Conference (Germany) in February 2020, as part of Japan's efforts to promote other countries' understanding of Japan's security policies, and to facilitate cooperation and confidence-building in the region.

## (2) Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

### A On-the-Ground Initiatives

#### (A) UN Peacekeeping Operations (UN PKOs)

As of December 31, 2019, 13 UN PKO missions are on active duty, primarily in the Middle East and Africa, to handle a wide range of duties that include monitoring ceasefires, promoting the political process, and protecting civilians. More than 90,000 military, police, and civilian personnel have been deployed to these missions. In response to the increasing complexity and scale of the mandates and the associated shortages of

personnel, equipment, and financial resources, discussions on more effective and efficient implementation of UN PKOs are underway in various forums, primarily within the UN.

Based on the Act on Cooperation with UN Peacekeeping Operations and Other Operations (PKO Act), since 1992 Japan has dispatched more than 12,500 personnel to a total of 28 missions, including UN PKOs. More recently, since 2011 Japanese staff officers have been dispatched to the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), while engineering units used to be deployed there from 2012. The engineering units in the South Sudanese capital of Juba and the surrounding areas have undertaken such activities as developing infrastructure that includes roads, supporting displaced persons through the provision of water supplies, as well as site preparation, and concluded their activities in May 2017. As of December 31, 2019, four SDF officers are on active duty at the UNMISS Headquarters, who continue to work toward peace and stability in South Sudan. Additionally, since April 2019, Japan has been conducting activities contributing to peace and stability in the Middle East by dispatching two SDF officers to the Force Headquarters for the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), which is stationed in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. Under the banner of "Proactive Contribution to Peace," by building on the past experiences of peacekeeping operations and making use of its own strengths, Japan will continue to contribute proactively in the field of international peace cooperation in the future by means such as enhancing capacity building support and dispatching units and individuals.

### **(B) ODA and Other Cooperation to Facilitate Peacebuilding**

Japan attaches importance to peacebuilding as part of its international cooperation and positions it as one of the priority issues in Japan's Development Cooperation Charter.

For addressing humanitarian crises, it is effective to combine peacebuilding and conflict

prevention with a coordination between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. It is important to fundamentally enhance measures to address the root causes of conflict, not only by taking post-conflict responses but by focusing more on the prevention of conflicts and their recurrence through nation-building and social stabilization measures during peacetime. Japan places great importance on this "humanitarian-development-peace nexus" and has been providing support for peacebuilding particularly in the following countries and regions.

#### **a Middle East**

Japan has provided comprehensive support for peace and stability in the Middle East. This includes providing food and refugee assistance in collaboration with international organizations for countries affected by conflicts, including Syria and neighboring countries, Yemen and Afghanistan. In 2019, Japan accepted 30 people from Afghanistan, including government officials, expected to contribute to such fields as agricultural, rural, and infrastructure development for the reconstruction of the country. Japan also accepted 22 students from Syria to offer education to young people who were deprived of opportunities to attend school due to the Syrian crisis. In Jordan, amid growing urgency for tighter border control in response to a worsening regional situation in recent years, Japan is providing support for the enhancement for customs security in Aqaba, the only city in Jordan that abuts an ocean. Enhanced customs search capability made possible through this support should help prevent the inflow of such things as narcotics, guns and explosives, and contribute to the stability and safety of Jordan and its surrounding areas.

#### **b Africa**

At the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) in August 2019, Japan put Peace and Stability as one of the three pillars of its cooperation policy. At the

conference, Prime Minister Abe advocated the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA), expressing Japan's intent to take concrete measures, under the principles of respecting Africa's ownership in conflict resolution and addressing the root causes that hamper peace and stability. Japan is in fact contributing to achieving peace and stability in Africa in various ways.

For example, Japan has conducted criminal justice training since 2014 for police officers, prosecutors, judges and others from Francophone African countries, and has supported stabilization of the Sahel region by strengthening the capabilities of investigative and judicial bodies. Japan also provides support for elections. During the presidential election in Guinea-Bissau at the end of 2019, Japan contributed to consolidating peace through fair election, working with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to purchase and ship voting machines. Japan is also providing security equipment to strengthen countries' ability to maintain security against frequent terrorist attacks and transnational crimes. In 2019, Japan made a decision to provide equipment to such countries as Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, and Mali. In South Sudan, along with dispatching Headquarters staff to UNMISS, Japan has been supporting peace negotiations and ceasefire monitoring through the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a regional organization in East Africa to help fulfill the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS<sup>1</sup>). Furthermore, Japan has been supporting Peacekeeping Training Centers operated by African countries. In collaboration with the UNDP, Japan has disbursed a total of 54 million US dollars between 2008 and 2019 to the centers in 13 countries, contributing to strengthening Africa's capacity for peacekeeping activities.

## **B Initiatives within the UN (Peacebuilding)**

Based on the understanding that many regional conflicts and civil wars are rekindled even after the conflict has ended, and that it is extremely important to provide appropriate support in the post-conflict period, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was established in 2005 with the aim of offering consistent advice on assistance, from conflict resolution to recovery, reintegration, and reconstruction. The PBC conducts discussions to identify priority issues and formulate peacebuilding strategies in the agenda countries.<sup>2</sup> Japan has served as a member of the Organizational Committee since the PBC's establishment and contributed to its activities.

Two resolutions were adopted in April 2016: the UN General Assembly resolution (A/RES/70/262) on the "Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture" including the PBC, and the UN Security Council resolution 2282. These resolutions recommended the improvement of the efficiency and flexibility of the PBC, along with the strengthening of cooperation between the PBC and the UN Security Council, as well as other organizations. In accordance with the General Assembly resolution, the UN Secretary-General issued a report on peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/72/707-S/2018/43) in February 2018. The report makes a variety of proposals for, inter alia: enhancing financing for peacebuilding; increasing operational and policy coherence of the PBC; strengthening UN leadership, accountability, and capacity; and boosting partnerships with international organizations and civil society.

At the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace held in April 2018, Japan expressed support for the Secretary-General's initiatives in the area of peacebuilding. At the meeting, the General Assembly adopted a resolution (A/RES/72/276),

<sup>1</sup> R-ARCSS: Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan  
An agreement concluded in response to the sluggish implementation of the Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan issued in 2015 by IGAD. Provides for matters such as a schedule for fulfilling the agreement, including bringing together concerned individuals in South Sudan to observe ceasefires.

<sup>2</sup> Four countries of Guinea-Bissau, Central Africa, Liberia, and Burundi



which included a request to the Secretary-General to present an interim report regarding his proposals to the General Assembly during its 73rd session (Security Council resolution 2413 with the same content was also adopted).

Japan has contributed proactively to the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) since its establishment in 2006. Announcing its aim to allocate 10 million US dollars in September 2016, Japan has contributed a total of 52.5 million US dollars (2 million US dollars in 2019) and ranks sixth among the major donor countries as of December 2019.

### C Human Resource Development

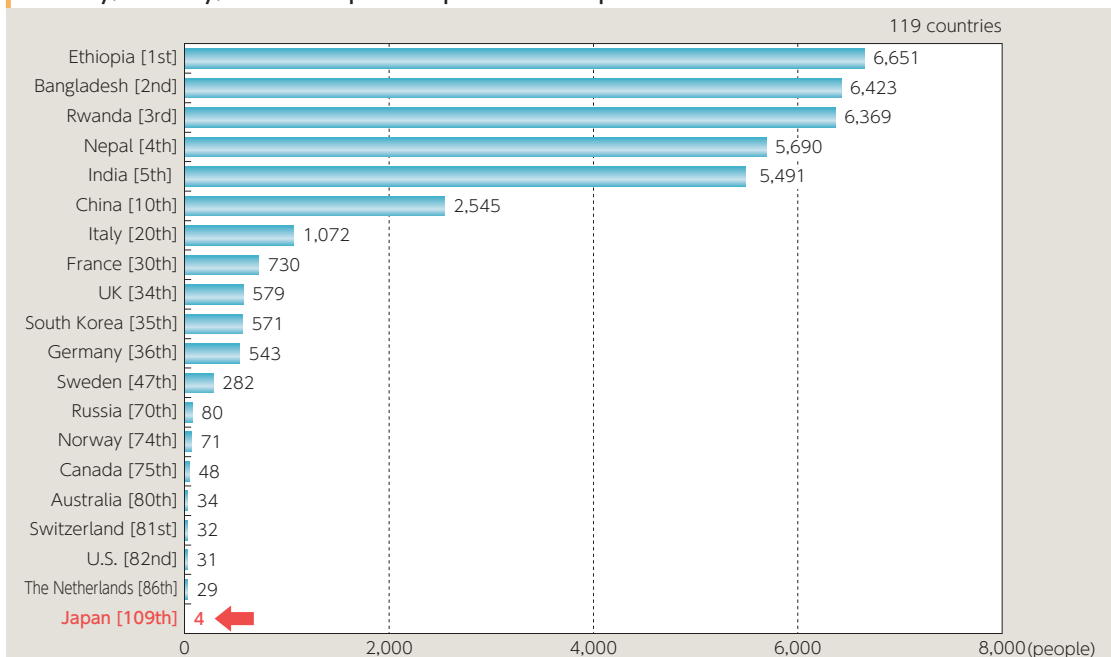
#### (A) The Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development

While civilian experts with a high level of skill and expertise have a substantial role to play in the field of post-conflict peacebuilding, the number of those who are capable of fulfilling the role is insufficient, and therefore, the development of

relevant human resources remains a major challenge. Japan has been implementing programs for human resource development in order to cultivate civilian experts who can play a leading role in the field of peacebuilding and development. As of the end of the FY2019, a total of about 800 people have been trained. The trainees who completed the programs have gone on to play an active role in the field of peacebuilding and development worldwide in such countries as South Sudan and Afghanistan, and have received high acclaim from both the UN and other countries.

In the FY2019 program, a training course for entry level human resources and a training course for mid-career practitioners with experience in the fields of peacebuilding and development were conducted. In addition, a course was conducted to assist those with certain professional and transferable experience in this field in order to start building up their new careers at international organizations.

#### Military, security, and headquarters personnel dispatched to UN missions



Source: UN website, etc. (as of December 30, 2019)

## (B) Training for United Nations Peacekeepers of Various Countries

Japan has been supporting peacekeepers from various countries participating in UN PKOs to enhance their capabilities. Since 2015, in conjunction with cooperative efforts among the UN, supporting member states, and personnel-dispatching countries, Japan has provided support for the Triangular Partnership Project (TPP), a framework for innovative cooperation aimed at addressing the urgent need to improve the capabilities of PKO personnel. For example, Japan has sent 172 SDF personnel and other individuals to Kenya and Uganda as instructors and conducted training on the operation of heavy engineering equipment for 277 people from eight African countries that expressed intentions to dispatch engineering units to UN PKOs. Additional regions have been added to this project, which now includes Asia and surrounding regions. Along with carrying out trial training in 2018 and full-scale training in 2019, Japan has dispatched 39 SDF and other personnel to Viet Nam and conducted training on the operation of heavy engineering equipment for 36 people from nine countries. Additionally, in October 2019 a buddy-first-aid program was begun in the medical field, a considerably problematic area for UN PKOs. Separate from this project, Japan also dispatches instructors and other personnel to Peacekeeping Training Centers in Asian and African nations while also providing them with financial assistance.

Furthermore, Japan provides financial support



UN Triangular Partnership Project (TPP) training for Asia and its surrounding regions (Viet Nam)

for a training course that is conducted by UN Women and that is offered to female military officers from different countries who are expected to be dispatched to UN PKOs.

## (3) Initiatives to Combat Security Threats

### A Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism Measures

While operations against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) carried out in Iraq and Syria had at one time effectively liberated the areas dominated by ISIL, the threat of terrorism and violent extremism is now spreading throughout the world, including Asia, as a result of the return or relocation of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), who were under the influence of ISIL, to their home countries or to third countries. In the terrorist attack that occurred in Christchurch, New Zealand in March, a mass shooting brought about an unprecedented incident where the live video was streamed by the perpetrator on social media as he committed the act and it went viral. In Sri Lanka, which was seen to have achieved stability in public safety and the consolidation of a peaceful environment 10 years after the civil war, the largest series of terrorist attacks in Asia in recent years occurred in April, claiming the lives of 250 people, including a Japanese national. In the face of such incidents, which represent an increasing diversity in the form and background of the terrorist attacks being perpetrated in recent years, there is a need to further strengthen measures to counterterrorism and violent extremism. At the same time, building social environments that will prevent people being drawn to violent extremism is an urgent issue.

Based on the “G7 Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism” compiled at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016, Japan has implemented the following actions (1) concrete counterterrorism measures, which includes utilizing Interpol databases and passenger name records (PNR), (2) cultivation of tolerance in communities to prevent violent extremism, and (3)

capacity building assistance to developing countries. In 2019, following the two aforementioned terrorist attacks, Japan expressed its firm commitment to combat terrorism in cooperation with New Zealand, Sri Lanka, and the international community. The Osaka Leaders' Statement on Preventing Exploitation of the Internet was formulated at the G20 Osaka Summit in June under Japan's Presidency and we have been steadily implementing the statement through public-private partnership.

Cutting off the funding of terrorism is of great importance to preventing and eradicating it. As such, March saw the unanimous adoption of UN Security Council resolution 2462, which focuses on the technical aspects of the financing of terrorism. Japan co-sponsored the resolution, which is a timely response to a perceived need to address the dangers of terrorists exploiting new financial technologies being constantly developed. Furthermore, in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 1373, Japan has implemented asset freezing measures against terrorists or terrorist organizations in cooperation with the U.S. and the other members of G7. Japan designated five additional entities in November to the sanction list set out in this resolution.

With respect to the issue of returning and relocating FTFs, there are two very important issues: (1) taking measures that include properly prosecuting, de-radicalizing, rehabilitating, and socially integrating former terrorists and their families, and (2) strengthening awareness programs and communities at the grassroots level to prevent people from being drawn to violent extremism, especially young people and women. In addition, Japan is implementing projects through providing financial contribution to international organizations to address imminent issues, including strengthening maritime security, preventing violent extremism and treating prisoners properly in prisons.

Japan provided contributions in the amount of 2.8 billion Japanese yen (supplementary budget for FY2018) to the projects implemented by

international organizations and funds, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), by using their respective strengths and expertise effectively.

As an initiative that Japan has carried out continuously for 16 years, Japan also runs an exchange program that invites Islamic school teachers to come engage in interfaith dialogue and visit places of Japanese culture and education. Japan will continue to implement such initiatives in future, in order to help promote moderation and the creation of more tolerant societies that are receptive to different values.

Japan also holds bilateral and trilateral counterterrorism consultations aimed at exchanging information on terrorism situations and enhancing coordination. In 2019, the Japan-UK consultation, Japan-U.S.-Australia consultation, and, as a consultation with a regional framework, Japan-ASEAN consultation were held.

The Government of Japan has promoted counterterrorism measures in collaboration with relevant countries and organizations. Based on the view that information gathering is critical for combating terrorism, the Government established the Counter Terrorism Unit - Japan (CTU-J) in December 2015 and has been making concerted efforts to gather information with the Prime Minister's Office serving as the control tower. Regarding the incident in which a Japanese national being detained in Syria was safely released in October 2018, this outcome is owed to CTU-J playing a key role in requesting the cooperation of the countries concerned and handling the situation by leveraging Japan's information network. Following the series of terrorist bombings that occurred in Sri Lanka in April 2019, the Director General in charge of the region and others from CTU-J were immediately dispatched to the area to gather information.

Close coordination between the Consular Affairs Bureau and CTU-J had played an important part in executing their critical responsibility of securing the safety of Japanese nationals overseas. Japan will continue to further enhance its information gathering through the CTU-J and take all possible measures to counterterrorism to ensure the safety of Japanese nationals overseas.

### **B Criminal Justice Initiatives**

The UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (“Congress”) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are in charge of shaping policy on crime prevention and criminal justice in the international community. Japan prepared for the 14th Congress, which was scheduled to be held in April 2020 in Kyoto, by coordinating with relevant countries, organizations, ministries, and agencies. The Kyoto Congress has been postponed due to the situation over the spread of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). In accordance with the overall theme, “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,” the Kyoto Congress will adopt a political declaration setting measures on crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as approaches for international cooperation. To lead discussions on the content and structure of this declaration, Japan invited representatives of each regional group to Kyoto in September 2019 and held the Governmental Expert Meeting on Preparation for the Kyoto Congress. Japan, as the chair, has also led discussions over a draft political declaration in Vienna since October.

Furthermore, Japan provides support to improve the prosecution capabilities of law-enforcement authorities in Southeast Asia and to enhance capacities related to measures against cybercrime by providing financial contributions to UNODC and through financial contributions from the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF).

In July 2017, Japan concluded the UN Convention against Transnational Organized

Crime (UNTOC), which establishes a global legal framework for promoting cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime such as terrorism more effectively. In accordance with the UNTOC, Japan advances international cooperation that includes investigation assistance.

### **C Anti-corruption Measures**

As a State Party to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), which sets out provisions for international cooperation and measures to tackle acts of corruption such as bribery and embezzlement of property by public officials, Japan has actively participated in discussions for the effective implementation of the UNCAC and strengthening international cooperation on preventing and eradicating corruption at opportunities such as the eighth Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC, held in December 2019. In addition, Japan has been conducting trainings for anti-corruption authorities in developing countries with the aim of strengthening their investigation and prosecution capabilities through financial contributions to UNODC. In 2019, Japan contributed approximately 50,000 US dollars to UNODC in order to support the operation of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism, which reviews the status of implementation of the Convention by each state party, as well as the effective implementation of the Convention. Japan also held seminars to assist the improvement of the protection of whistleblowers by the States Parties.

Within the context of the G20, as the co-chair of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, Japan focused on promoting integrity and transparency in infrastructure development and strengthening whistleblowers protection as priority issues for the group. It also led discussions on the development of the G20 Compendium of Good Practices for Promoting Integrity and Transparency in Infrastructure Development and the G20 High Level Principles for Effective Protection of Whistleblowers, which lay out the

G20 member states' commitment to strengthening initiatives in these areas. These documents, adopted under Japan's initiative, were ultimately published as documents accompanying the G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration.

Japan is an active participant in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Group on Bribery, which verifies the implementation of the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions by each state party to prevent and combat the bribery of foreign public officials. Japan has also supported the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative jointly promoted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the OECD as part of its contributions toward enhancing anti-corruption measures in the region.

#### **D Measures to Combat Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism**

Regarding measures to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an international framework that establishes the international standards that countries should implement and conducts peer reviews to assess levels of implementation. As a founding member, Japan has actively participated in these discussions. In recent years, the FATF has been engaged in initiatives to prevent financing for the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and has issued the FATF statement that calls for the eradication of illegal financial activities by North Korea. In the Fourth Round of Joint FATF/APG Mutual Evaluations of Japan, conducted in 2019, Japan, under cooperation between the Government and the private sector, provided explanations on its measures to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism to the FATF's assessors.

Furthermore, in order to support international initiatives to stamp out money laundering and block terrorism financing flows, Japan works with the UNODC to provide assistance for capacity building that includes the development of legal

systems in countries and regions such as Mongolia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.

#### **E Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons**

Japan has strengthened its domestic mechanisms to combat trafficking in persons while proactively providing assistance to developing countries in accordance with "Japan's 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons." This Action Plan was developed in order to effectively tackle trafficking in persons, which involves increasingly sophisticated and latent methods. For example, in 2019, Japan continued to conduct training programs through JICA to deepen mutual understanding on human trafficking countermeasures (especially prevention, protection and support to restore the autonomy of victims) of stakeholders in Asian countries, including Japan, and to promote more effective regional cooperation. With respect to cooperation with international organizations, in 2019, through funding to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Japan continued to provide assistance for the safe repatriation of foreign victims of trafficking in persons protected in Japan and to carry out social rehabilitation support programs to prevent the repetition of trafficking after they return to their countries. Japan also funded training programs for law-enforcement authorities in Southeast Asian countries through projects organized by UNODC.

As a state party to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Japan has also further deepened its cooperation with other countries with a view to eradicating trafficking in persons.

#### **F Measures to Combat Illicit Drug Trafficking**

Japan works in cooperation with UNODC to investigate and analyze synthetic drugs such as amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances in the Asia-Pacific region, provide support for improving the container control capacity of regulatory authorities at air and sea ports,



and put in place measures against illicit drug trafficking, which is spreading across borders (see the Column below). In relation to Afghanistan, the world's largest region for the illegal cultivation of opium poppy, Japan has contributed 5.3 million US dollars to UNODC in order to strengthen border controls, promote alternative development to drug crop cultivation, and enhance capacity building of narcotics agents in cooperation with neighboring countries. Furthermore, at the ministerial segment held during the 62nd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) in March 2019, a general debate statement was made by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Yamada Kenji, who attended as the head of the governmental delegation. The statement mentioned the threat

posed by the world drug problem to public health and social security and the urgent issue of international organized crime countermeasures, including for narcotics, in the context of counterterrorism measures in the case of Japan, which is expecting major international events. It also touched on the necessity of the international community taking a multifaceted and multilayered approach to new challenges in preventing the worsening of the narcotics problem while maintaining existing frameworks. Additionally, as an ongoing member of the CND, which comprises 53 members, Japan was reelected to the Asia-Pacific Group (eight seats) in the election held in April. Japan will serve a new term as a member from 2020 to 2023.

## Column

### Maritime Law Enforcement Capacity Building Project for Coastal Countries of the Indian Ocean

Mitsuhashi Kazuyo  
Project Officer, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

If we open a world map and look at the Indian Ocean, we would see that the Indian Ocean is a dynamic environment which has the coastlines of Asian, Middle Eastern, and African countries. This vast ocean area plays an important role as a lifeline for global logistics and the economy. On the other hand, it comprises various types of trafficking routes running from Asia to Eastern Africa and Southern Africa which provide an illicit drug trafficking channel for countries around the world. In addition, as we face the increasing challenges posed by the sea routes, such as the rising number of refugees and migrants in recent years, and the movement of arms and terrorists from unstable region to the other. In this regard, it is a great challenge for the international society how we ensure the maritime safety and security in the region.

To tackle these issues, the Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) under the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is implementing a maritime law enforcement capacity building project for countries along the coast of the Indian Ocean, and Japan is one of the donor countries of this project.

The project provides comprehensive supports to the respective agencies for developing their maritime law enforcement capacity. For example, in policy making and skills needed for law enforcement and prosecution. The goal of the project is to strengthen the criminal justice system necessary for maintaining maritime security in the area. In addition, we conduct trainings and workshops at the regional level to promote inter-regional cooperation among the recipient countries.

As maritime crimes are cross-border issues, it is important to provide an environment that enables practitioners from each country to share their common knowledge and expertise. To meet such needs,



Training in a communications operations room (Photo: Paolo Film & TV, Denmark)

this project seeks to benefit people from Africa to Asia who have various cultural backgrounds and levels of capacity. For this reason, more careful and detailed preparation is required.

On the other hand, it is an excellent example of support for experts across countries and regions, as we gather human resources from various countries with one purpose of combatting maritime crime.



Scene of VBSS training (Photo: UNODC)

My involvement in this project is mainly related to coordination with the Government of Japan.

In particular, VBSS (Visit, Board, Search and Seizure) training is an area in which the UNODC and the Japan Coast Guard have been cooperating.

During the training conducted in Sri Lanka and Seychelles, the Japan Coast Guard dispatched two instructors for one month, and it resulted in satisfying more needs of the participants as a joint program of the UNODC and the Japan Coast Guard.

Our collaboration with the Japan Coast Guard is strengthened every year. Most recently, an officer from the Japan Coast Guard participated as an observer in a workshop conducted for prosecutors from Southeast Asia, and it contributed to connecting the law enforcement officers with the judicial officers.

My work in the GMCP includes such collaboration with Japan and monitoring support. The job scope covers a wide range of duties and there are many difficult moments. However, it gives me exceptional joy when I am able to provide support successfully while experimenting with what works and what does not work.

In addition, while the partnership between relevant countries and organizations is expanding, I am so honored to have the opportunity to be a part of such partnership and to witness Japan's active role such as the training conducted by the Japan Coast Guard.

I will continue to work hard to contribute to enhancing global criminal justice and security from the seas through delivering heartfelt support from Japan and other donor countries to the beneficiaries.



Participants exchanging opinions at VBSS training (Photo: Paolo Film & TV, Denmark)

#### (4) The Oceans and Seas

Japan is a maritime nation that has achieved economic growth through maritime trade and development of marine resources, and has pursued “Free, Open and Stable Seas.” For Japan, maritime rights and interests are of great importance to securing its peace, stability, and prosperity. They are the basis for economic survival and include freedom of navigation and overflight and the development of marine resources. To safeguard these maritime rights and interests in the long term and in a stable manner, it is essential to maintain and strengthen maritime order and ensure safe maritime transport.

Furthermore, “Free, Open and Stable Seas,” which are upheld by maritime order governed by

law and rules rather than force, are essential for the peace and prosperity not only of Japan but also of the international community as a whole. To maintain and develop “Free, Open and Stable Seas,” Japan contributes actively to maintaining and strengthening maritime order and ensuring safe maritime transport toward achieving a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.”

However, in recent years, there has been an increasing number of cases where the interests of countries clash with each other from the perspective of securing resources and national security. In particular, in the seas of Asia, there has been an increasing number of cases of tension arising from friction between countries, and the international community is closely monitoring these cases with

much interest. Against this background, at the 13th Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue) held in Singapore in May 2014, Prime Minister Abe stated that it was necessary to fully uphold the “Three Principles of the Rule of Law at Sea” (see 6(2)). Recently, at the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting held in Dinard, France, in April 2019, Japan and other G7 countries expressed their serious concerns over the situation in the East and South China Seas and expressed their commitment to maintaining international rules-based maritime order, combating illegal activities at sea, including acts of piracy, and supporting regional maritime security through such means as comprehensive capacity building assistance including maritime domain awareness (MDA). Outside the framework of the G7, Japan has also utilized forums that are related to the East Asia Summit (EAS) including the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) as well as the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security to actively show the importance of “Free, Open and Stable Seas” and Japan’s stance and initiatives, as well as the importance of international cooperation in the area of maritime security. For example, at the EAS held in November 2019, Prime Minister Abe expressed full support for the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) that ASEAN announced, and stated Japan’s willingness to cooperate with ASEAN toward materializing AOIP by achieving synergy with the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” (FOIP) concept advocated by Japan.

Combining various assistance programs by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, Self Defense Forces and the Japan Coast Guard, including capacity building assistance, defense equipment and technology cooperation, and MDA, Japan seamlessly supports coastal states mainly in Asia and Africa to enhance maritime law enforcement capabilities through providing patrol vessels, technical cooperation, and human resource development, among other forms of assistance. In this way, Japan has been contributing to establishing and promoting the rule of law

at sea.

#### **A Order at Sea**

##### **(A) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and Related Japanese Initiatives**

Also known as the “Constitution for the Seas,” UNCLOS is the very basis of maritime order governed by the rule of law. Japan regards maritime order with the Convention at the core as the cornerstone that safeguards Japan’s maritime rights and interests while facilitating its maritime activities across the international community. As such, Japan actively contributes to discussions among concerned international organizations at conferences that include the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention, as well as to the sharing of ideas for achieving stability in the maritime legal order, in order to ensure that the convention will be even more widely applied and implemented appropriately (see 6(2) on page 224).

##### **(B) Challenge to Maritime Sovereignty (Situation Surrounding the East China Sea) (see Chapter 1, 1 (2) and Chapter 2, Section 1, 3 (1) (D))**

In the East China Sea, Chinese Government vessels have continued to intrude into Japan’s territorial sea around the Senkaku Islands in 2019, and active operations by Chinese military vessels and aircraft have been observed. In addition, China has been continuing unilateral resource development in areas where the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the continental shelf are pending delimitation. In recent years, Japan has found numerous research projects being conducted by China in the waters surrounding Japan, such as the East China Sea. Much of the research was carried out without Japan’s consent or in a manner which Japan did not consent to. Given China’s continued attempts to change the status quo unilaterally in the East China Sea, Japan will carefully monitor the trends and movements around its air and sea spaces, continue to respond in a firm but calm manner while making claims

### Uotsuri Island of the Senkaku Islands



Photo: Office of Policy Planning and Coordination on Territory and Sovereignty, Cabinet Secretariat

that should be made, and at the same time, promote cooperation with the relevant countries including the U.S. in order to achieve peace and stability in the East China Sea.

#### **(C) Challenge to the Maritime Order and Response by Japan and the International Community (Problems Surrounding the South China Sea) (see Chapter 1, 1(2) and Chapter 2, Section 1, 7 (2))**

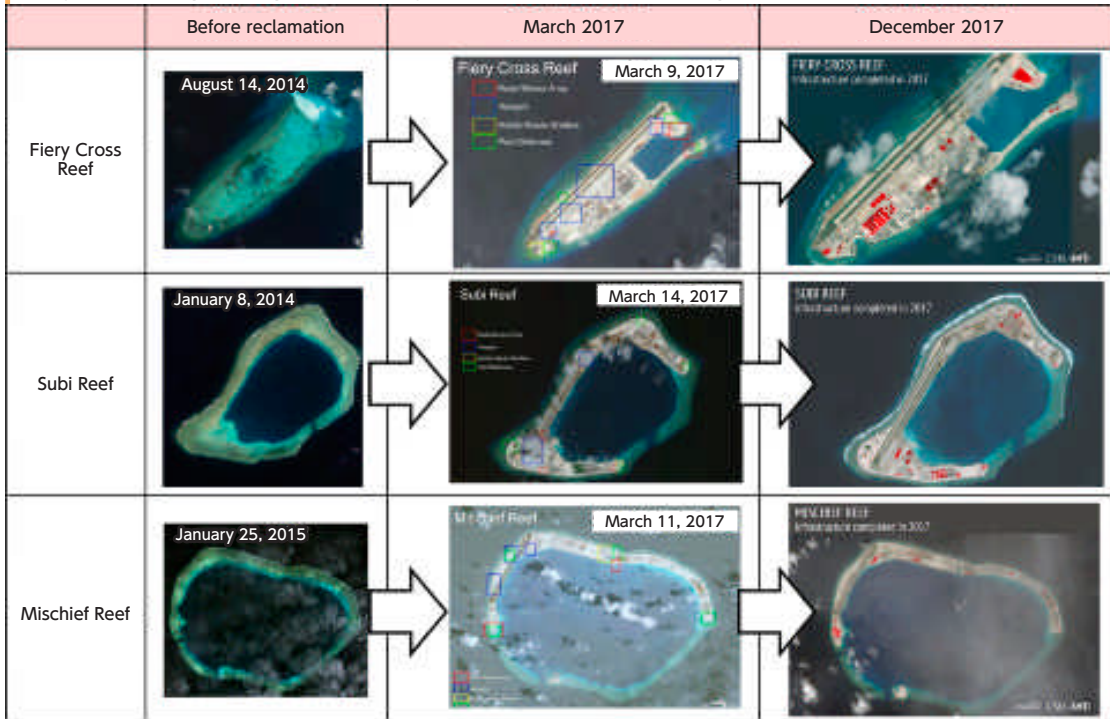
In the South China Sea, China has been further conducting unilateral actions that aim to change the status quo and that increase tensions. These include the large-scale and rapid building of outposts and the use of them for military purposes, as well as attempts to create a *fait accompli*. The international community, including Japan, has expressed serious concerns over these actions. Japan has consistently supported the full enforcement of the rule of law in the South China Sea,

while focusing on ensuring freedom of navigation and overflight and ensuring the safety of sea lanes. Japan has also emphasized the importance of all parties involved with the South China Sea to work toward the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law. With regard to dialogues between China and ASEAN concerning issues surrounding the South China Sea, Japan maintains that the easing of tensions through such initiatives should lead to demilitarization of the area and to a peaceful and open South China Sea.

In the arbitration proceedings instituted by the Government of the Philippines on the dispute between the Philippines and China regarding the South China Sea under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Arbitral Tribunal rendered the final arbitral award<sup>3</sup> on July 12, 2016. Japan issued a statement by the Foreign Minister on the same day, stating that as the Tribunal's award is final and legally

<sup>3</sup> Based on the judgment that historic rights would not, under international law, be considered a legal basis for the "Nine-dash Line" claimed by China, the Arbitral Tribunal ruled that the Scarborough Shoal and Spratly Islands do not generate EEZs or continental shelves. The ruling also found China's land reclamation and public vessel navigation to infringe on the sovereign rights of the Philippines and to violate obligations under international law, including environmental mandates.

### Large-scale, rapid outpost building in the South China Sea by China



Source: CSIS Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative/Digital Globe

binding on the parties to the dispute under the provisions of UNCLOS, the parties to this case are required to comply with the award, and that Japan strongly expects that the parties' compliance with this award will eventually lead to the peaceful settlement of disputes in the South China Sea.

The issue with regard to the South China Sea is directly related to the peace and stability of the region and constitutes a legitimate concern of the international community. The issue is also an important matter of concern for Japan, which depends on marine transport for much of its resources and energy and which is a stakeholder that utilizes the South China Sea. Cooperation within the international community is of great importance in maintaining and developing "Free, Open and Stable Seas." For this reason, Japan supports the U.S. Freedom of Navigation

Operations.<sup>4</sup>

#### **B Ensuring Safe Maritime Transport**

Japan actively contributes to ensuring freedom of navigation and overflight and safe maritime transport through anti-piracy measures in Asia and Africa as well as close partnership and cooperation with other countries.

##### **(A) Anti-piracy Measures in Asia**

To encourage regional cooperation in coping with incidents such as acts of piracy in Asia, Japan took the initiative in formulating the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), which entered into force in 2006. Each of the contracting parties provides information and cooperates on incidents such as acts of piracy in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore and

<sup>4</sup> The U.S. Government explains its "freedom of navigation" operations as efforts to challenge excessive claims that can infringe freedom of navigation and overflight, and the right of lawful uses of the sea. One example of this is the navigation of the U.S. Navy's Montgomery littoral combat ship through the waters around the Spratly Islands on January 25, 2020.



other regions, via the Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP-ISC) established in Singapore under the Agreement. Japan supports the activities of ReCAAP-ISC through personnel (dispatching the Executive Director and an Assistant Director) and financial contributions. Moreover, Japan is carrying out programs to enhance maritime law enforcement and surveillance capabilities in Asia, which have been highly acclaimed in the international community.

According to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the number of piracy cases in the seas of Southeast Asia was 60 in 2018 and 53 in 2019. In recent years, there have been some incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Sulu Sea and Celebes Sea in Southeast Asia, posing a threat to vessels navigating in these waters. In light of this situation, Japan will continue to actively support maritime safety capacity building through efforts such as providing patrol boats and maritime safety equipment as well as dispatching experts to maritime safety agencies of Southeast Asian countries located along Japan's sea lanes.

### **(B) Anti-piracy Measures Off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden**

#### **a Current status of piracy and armed robbery cases**

According to the IMB, the number of piracy and armed robbery cases (hereinafter referred to as "piracy cases") off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden was 237 at its peak in 2011 but has since declined to a low level (zero in 2015, two in 2016, nine in 2017, three in 2018, and zero in 2019). Despite sustained efforts such as maritime operations of the navies and self-defense measures by merchant ships, the root causes of piracy off the coast of Somalia remain unresolved. Pirates off the coast of Somalia still have the intention and capability to carry out acts of piracy, which requires a careful watch on the situation.

#### **b Extension of anti-piracy operations and record of escort activities**

Since 2009, Japan has been conducting anti-piracy operations, without any interruption, by deploying Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyers (with coast guard officers on board) and P-3C maritime patrol aircraft off the coast of Somalia and to the Gulf of Aden. On November 12, 2019, the Government of Japan decided to extend anti-piracy operations based on the Act on Punishment and Countermeasures against Piracy for another year. The deployed destroyers protected 38 merchant ships on 30 escort operations between January and December 2019, while the P-3Cs carried out 240 mission flights, in which they conducted surveillance, gathered information, and provided information to the naval vessels of other countries.

#### **c Promotion of international cooperation in anti-piracy measures**

To solve the root causes of piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden, Japan has been making multi-layered efforts that include support for enhancing the maritime law enforcement capacity of Somalia and its neighboring countries and ensuring the stability of Somalia. Japan has supported the establishment of Information Sharing Centres in Yemen, Kenya, and Tanzania, as well as the construction of the Djibouti Regional Training Centre (DRTC), by contributing 15.1 million US dollars to a fund established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Japan and France co-organized a seminar on maritime security at the DRTC in October 2017. Japan has also supported seminars at the DRTC aimed at capacity building for maritime law enforcement authorities and other organizations. Moreover, Japan has contributed 4.5 million US dollars to a trust fund to support the enhancement of piracy prosecution capacity, which assists Somalia and its neighboring countries in establishing courts and training judicial officers as well as in repatriating to Somalia those found guilty of piracy in

its neighboring countries such as Seychelles. In addition, Japan provided two patrol vessels to the Djibouti Coast Guard in 2015 and has been supporting the enhancement of its capacity to secure maritime safety and security through JICA's technical cooperation. With a view to promoting the stability of Somalia, Japan has provided a total of 480 million US dollars since 2007 aimed at supporting improvement in basic services and public security through support for the police, as well as revitalization of the domestic economy through vocational training and job creation, among other measures.

### (5) Cyber

With the advent of new technologies such as 5G (fifth-generation mobile communications system) and the IoT (Internet of Things), cyberspace has become indispensable for social and economic activities. At the same time, however, cyber attacks are growing in scale and impact every year, and cybersecurity is a matter of urgent priority as the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 draw near.

Against this backdrop, Japan has promoted cyber diplomacy based on the three pillars of "Promotion of the rule of law in cyberspace," "Development of confidence-building measures," and "Cooperation on capacity building" in accordance with the Cybersecurity Strategy, revised in July 2018 (see the Special Feature on page 196).

"Promotion of the rule of law in cyberspace" maintains that existing international law is applicable to cyber activities, and Japan is therefore taking active roles in discussions in the international community through the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (UNGGE) and other forums. Having been selected to be a member of the sixth UNGGE, which was established in 2019, Japan leads discussions concerning the application of international law in cyberspace and norms of responsible state behavior. Japan also actively contributes to discussions held by the UN Open-ended Working Group, established in 2019,

with attention paid to complementing discussions had by the UNGGE. In addition, Japan collaborates with other likeminded countries in taking initiatives to deter malicious cyber activities. In December 2018, Japan issued a statement resolutely condemning the long-running, widespread attacks perpetrated against private organizations, academic institutions, and other organizations by the China-based hacking group APT10. Japan participated in a ministerial-level meeting on cybersecurity hosted by the U.S. in September 2019. At the meeting, Japan expressed its support for a joint statement on cooperation toward encouraging the acceptance of responsibility by states acting against frameworks on responsible state behavior in cyberspace. Concerning countermeasures against cybercrime, as the first country from Asia to become a party to the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention), which is the only multilateral treaty on the use of cyberspace, Japan has actively participated in the Plenaries of the Cybercrime Convention Committee and the preparation of a draft Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention that seeks to improve the effectiveness of investigative cooperation. In line with Japan's efforts to add more nations to the treaty, especially nations in Asia, Japan explained the importance of the Budapest Convention to Asian nations, and encouraged their participation in the convention, at The ASEAN-Japan Cybercrime Dialogue in January and November meeting of the Council of Europe.

Regarding "Development of confidence-building measures," gaining a better understanding of one another's views and enhancing mutual confidence are critical to prevent unforeseen situations stemming from cyber activities. With this purpose in mind, Japan has held consultations and dialogues with 14 countries and regions, and in 2019 held bilateral cyber policy consultations with Australia, the EU, France, India, Russia, and the U.S., as well as a trilateral dialogue with China and the Republic of Korea. Within the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) framework, Japan

Special  
Feature

## Toward a Free, Fair, and Secure Cyberspace

Advances and improvements in technology and services in cyberspace, including the popularization of the Internet and smartphones as well as the development of Big Data and cloud technology, have brought our global society closer than ever before and enriched our lives in every way. On the other hand, the use of cyberspace by malicious actors, including those whose involvement is suspected to be state-sponsored, poses new security challenges.

Against this backdrop, a “free, fair, and secure cyberspace” has become even more important for ensuring peace and security in the international community. In order to promote the realization and development of a free, fair, and secure cyberspace, it is necessary to clarify that existing international law, which has been established over a long period of time, is applicable to the rapidly-developing cyberspace, and at the same time, it is also essential to ensure stability and predictability in the international community by formulating norms of responsible state behavior in cyberspace. Furthermore, with regard to “invisible” activities in cyberspace that cross national borders easily, it is also essential to put in place confidence building measures to deepen trust and mutual understanding between countries on their legislations and strategies, and to support capacity building to respond to cyber attacks.

Japan has been contributing to international discussions through the UN's Group of Governmental Experts (GGE<sup>\*1</sup>) on cybersecurity, as a part of the UN's efforts to advance and achieve these aims. The GGE has engaged in discussions on topics such as Existing and potential threats, International laws, rules, norms, and principles, confidence-building measures, and capacity building. Japan has participated in three sessions from 2012 to 2013 (third session), 2014 to 2015 (fourth session), and 2016 to 2017 (fifth session). The GGE Report for 2015 recommended 11 norms for the responsible state behavior in cyberspace, and at the same time, reaffirmed the application of existing international law, including the whole of the UN Charter, to cyberspace. Through a General Assembly Resolution thereafter, all member states are required to act in accordance with the report. Japan was elected as a member of the sixth session of the GGE, newly established in 2019, and has contributed actively from the standpoint of advancing discussions upon the basis of the GGE Reports drawn up to date.

Japan is also actively involved in the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG<sup>\*2</sup>) established for the first time under the auspices of the UN in 2019, as a space where all UN member states can participate in discussions. Japan contributes to discussions while also paying attention to mutual complementarity with discussions in the GGE.

Japan will continue to work more actively on addressing security challenges in cyberspace in cooperation with the international community, through discussions on the application of international law and code of responsible conduct for states.

<sup>\*1</sup> The GGE is a space for discussions by experts, established based on a UN General Assembly Resolution. Members comprised experts from 15 countries from the first to third sessions, 20 countries for the fourth session, and 25 countries for the fifth session. Members from 25 countries are participating in the sixth session from 2019 to 2020, and a report will be submitted to the UN General Assembly in 2021 after four meetings have been convened.

<sup>\*2</sup> The official title is “Open-ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.”

has also led discussions at inter-sessional meetings on cybersecurity as co-chair, and in 2019 made progress on efforts such as proposing new confidence-building measures (CBM) related to establishing contact points.

Regarding “Cooperation on capacity building,”

due to the nature of cyberspace, the lack of incident handling capacity of some countries and regions may pose a risk to the entire world. Therefore, capacity building in developing countries is important for ensuring Japan's security, as well. Japan has been providing support, including

the capacity building of the Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT)<sup>5</sup> and the relevant administrative and investigative agencies, mainly in ASEAN countries. For example, Japan provides lectures, exercises, facility tours, and other opportunities to policy advisors, criminal justice practitioners, and others in regions such as Asia, the Middle East, and Africa as part of the JICA's Group and Region-focused Trainings. Japan also conducts "Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime" with INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI) through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). Within the framework of the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting, Japan has been engaging in efforts that involve trainings in cybersecurity exercises, critical information infrastructures protection, and awareness raising. Japan will continue to provide strategic and effective assistance through the efforts of the entire Government.

## (6) Outer Space

In recent years, outer space has become congested due to the diversified use of outer space and increasing number of countries using space. In addition, the increase of space debris due to factors such as Anti-Satellite (ASAT) tests and satellite collisions poses a growing risk to the sustainable and stable use of outer space.

In order to cope with this situation, Japan has been engaging in mission assurance for space systems while working on international rule-making and international space cooperation, which includes cooperative efforts with other countries, notably its ally, the U.S.

### A Realizing and Strengthening the Rule of Law in Outer Space

Based on environmental changes concerning outer space, the international community has been discussing international rule-making

concerning outer space activities in a variety of ways. Japan has also been actively involved in these discussions with the aim of establishing and strengthening the rule of law in outer space. After nine years of discussions, the Guidelines for the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (LTS Guidelines) were adopted, which were built on the momentum gained by a joint proposal by four countries, namely Japan, the U.S., Canada, and France, at the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) in June 2019. The decision was also made to establish a five-year working group, under the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, which will hold discussions on implementing the adopted guidelines. Moreover, a Japanese space law expert will be serving as Chair of the COPUOS Legal Subcommittee in 2020 and 2021. Through efforts such as these, Japan is actively participating in and contributing to discussions at international conferences and other meetings while playing a significant role in international rule-making (see the Special Feature on page 198).

With regard to the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS), a Group of Governmental Experts was established by a resolution submitted to the UN General Assembly in 2017. Meetings of the Group were held in January 2018 and March 2019 and attended by experts from 25 countries, including Japan. However, recommendations issued by the Group were not adopted.

### B International Dialogues and Consultations on Outer Space

Japan conducts bilateral and trilateral dialogues and consultations on outer space with primarily major space-faring nations and nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

At the first meeting of the Japan-India Space Dialogue held in Delhi in March 2019, the two countries exchanged information on their space

<sup>5</sup> A general term which refers to a group that deals with computer security incidents. In order to minimize the damage caused by computer security incidents, they collect and analyze incident-related information, vulnerability information and predictive information of cyber attacks, consider solutions and measures, and cope with the incidents.

## Special Feature

## Japan's Efforts in the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)

The United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) is a permanent committee established through the UN General Assembly Resolution on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, adopted in 1959. There are the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee under COPUOS, each of which reviews various issues surrounding space activities from technical and legal perspectives respectively. In COPUOS, member States actively discuss rules applied in outer space, while various space treaties and guidelines, such as the Outer Space Treaty, also known as the "Constitution of Outer Space," have been drafted. Japan is actively involved in such discussions with a view to realizing and strengthening the rule of law in outer space.

A recent highlight is the adoption of the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability (LTS) of Outer Space Activities by the 62nd session of COPUOS held in June 2019. With the aim of realizing the long-term sustainability of outer space activities such as space debris mitigation and the safety of space objects, the LTS Guidelines summarize best practices that member states should implement on a voluntary basis.

The LTS Guidelines were discussed in a working group established under the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS in 2010, but the working group was concluded in June 2018 without the adoption of the Guidelines.

On the first day of the 62nd session of COPUOS convened in June 2019, Japan, in cooperation with the U.S., Canada, and France, jointly proposed the establishment of a new working group for the LTS Guidelines and emphasized the importance of the Guidelines, thereby contributing actively to advancing the discussions. As a result, the LTS Guidelines were adopted unanimously by 92 member states (95 member states as of March 2020) on the final day of the session. At the same time, it was decided that a working group would be established under the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to discuss matters such as the implementation of the Guidelines, marking the culmination of nine years of discussions. The unanimous adoption at the UN of wide range of international rules related to outer space activities, such as space debris mitigation and the safety of space objects, carries great significance, and represents Japan's significant contribution to rule-making in COPUOS.

Furthermore, Professor Aoki Setsuko of Keio University Law School will be appointed as the chair of the Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS, which engages in discussions on legal matters related to outer space activities, for 2020 and 2021.

In these ways, Japan continues to contribute actively to international rule-making, with a view to securing the sustainable and stable use of outer space.



United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) (Vienna, Austria)

policies and held discussions on space security, cooperation between relevant agencies, space industry, and international norms on outer space. The parties also decided to conduct the dialogue on a regular basis to enhance their cooperation. At the fourth meeting of the Japan-EU Space Dialogue, held in Tokyo in March, the two parties exchanged information on the latest space policy

of each side and held discussions on matters such as the possibility of cooperation in civil uses. At the sixth meeting of the Japan-U.S. Comprehensive Dialogue on Space, held in Washington DC in July, the two sides engaged in a comprehensive exchange of views from a broad perspective on civil and security topics toward ensuring the continuous, safe, and stable use of outer space, and



issued a joint statement as an outcome document. Furthermore, regarding Japan-U.S. cooperation in this field, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Minister of Defense of Japan, Secretary of State of the U.S. and Secretary of Defense of the U.S. confirmed in April that Japan will host U.S. space situational awareness (SSA) sensors (as hosted payloads) on the Japanese Quasi-Zenith Satellite System scheduled to be launched in FY2023.

With respect to multinational meetings, the 26th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAP) was held in Nagoya in November, co-organized by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to further enhance the framework for space cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

At the G20 Osaka Summit in June, Prime Minister Abe stated the need for cooperation by the international community to address the risk to the stable use of space posed by the increase in space debris, as well as expressed Japan's plan to begin a large-scale debris removal project in 2019 as the first nation and its intention to play a leading role in this area.

### **C Space Science and Exploration, Overseas Development of Japanese Space Industry, and Contributions to Addressing Global Challenges**

The progress of space exploration and application for peaceful purposes is a common benefit for all humankind, and is also significant in terms of diplomacy. In particular, the International Space Station (ISS) is an epic project in which 15 countries participate and has become a symbol of international cooperation regarding outer space. The Japanese Experiment Module “Kibo” is capable of deploying cube satellites, and is also used to deploy satellites on behalf of many emerging and developing countries with the aim of providing support for capacity building in the space field. Plans call for the deployment of RWASAT-1, Rwanda's first satellite, in November 2019, to be

followed by Guatemala's first satellite, Quetzal-1, in the spring of 2020.

Meanwhile, Japan's participation in a program proposed by the U.S. to conduct moon exploration, including the development of a human outpost in the lunar vicinity (Gateway) on the basis of international cooperation, was decided at a meeting of the Strategic Headquarters for National Space Policy in October, in light of the fact that at the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in May, 2019 the view to accelerate discussions on cooperation regarding moon exploration was shared between the two leaders. Japan will coordinate with partners to participate in this program strategically in areas where Japan has advantages.

Leveraging the growth of the expanding markets of space development and utilization, largely in emerging nations, is important for the Japanese space industry. The public and private sectors are working together to promote the entry of Japan's commercial space industry into overseas markets by such means as high-level campaigns, mobilizing diplomatic missions, and the promotion of the utilization of Japan's Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS) “Michibiki,” which commenced operations in November 2018, in the Asia-Pacific region, including support for overseas demonstrations of autonomous driving agricultural machineries using the QZSS. In addition, through international cooperation using space technologies, Japan has been addressing global issues in such fields as climate change, disaster management, forest conservation, marine fisheries resource management, and energy and resources to contribute to achieving the SDGs, as well as supporting capacity building regarding space in developing countries. For example, with countries such as Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Japan has begun cooperation aimed at operating a forestry monitoring system that will utilize JJ-FAST (JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics), tropical forest monitoring through the Daichi 2, also known as the Advanced Land Observation Satellite.

### (7) Emerging Security Challenges

Due to the development of technological innovations such as the IoT, 5G, AI, and quantum technology that could bring about fundamental changes in the very fabric of society and people's lives, the scope of security has broadened to encompass the field of the economy and technology.

Each country is going head-to-head over the development of these technologies, which directly impact a country's competitiveness, while stepping up moves to apply these technologies to the security domain. It is foreseen that the success of innovation would greatly impact the security environment.

For example, the U.S. is working to maintain its military superiority in all domains through technological innovation and other means, with the goal of developing military forces to respond to the emerging challenges. In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, with the largest defense budget to date, the U.S. lays out a policy for large-scale investment in research and development into emerging technologies such as 5G, AI, quantum technology, hypersonic technology, and unmanned technology. China, meanwhile, pursues its "Military-Civil Fusion" strategy, which aims at multifaceted development of both military and civil sectors. With a focus on research and development of advanced technologies, China is also working to recruit high-level foreign personnel through its "Thousand Talents Plan" and other initiatives. The 2019 national defense white paper entitled "China's National Defense in the New Era" mentioned the military sector applications of advanced science and technologies such as AI, quantum information, big data, cloud computing, and IoT, and expressed its intention to promote innovation and development of science and technology for national defense. Russia, in addition to modernizing its nuclear capability, continues to modernize its military capability through such efforts as developing new weapons utilizing emerging technologies

including hypersonic speed.

Given these circumstances, there is a growing awareness about the importance of sensitive technology control that goes beyond the frameworks of conventional security trade control. In the U.S., for example, discussions are being held about adding emerging technologies and fundamental technologies such as AI and quantum technology that are at risk of diversion to military use to the list of regulations, in addition to general-purpose technologies regulated under conventional security trade control protocols. Furthermore, measures are taken to prevent leakage of sensitive technologies for security reasons. This is in response to the diversified leakage channels of technology information and personnel, including the transfer of researchers and other personnel enabled by globalized research and corporate activities, corporate acquisitions, and cyber attacks enabled by increasingly sophisticated ICT.

Japan's advanced technological capabilities, while being the base for its economic and defense capabilities, serve as a valuable resource that the international community expects of Japan. While broadly assessing trends of research and development, and the application of science and technology being developed faster than ever before, the Government of Japan continues to combine its efforts of the Government, industry, and academia, aiming for the effective use of technologies. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to conduct these efforts as government activities and to work closely with the allies and like-minded countries to take stock of trends and programs of science and technology in other countries, and to actively promote the development of international norms, in order to promote diplomacy over addressing the emerging security challenges.

## 4 Disarmament and Non-proliferation and the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

### (1) Nuclear Disarmament

As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings during wartime, Japan has the responsibility to take the lead in efforts by the international community to realize a world without nuclear weapons.

The global security environment has been severe in recent years. As seen in discussions over the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted in July 2017, there exists an apparent divergence of views on how best to advance nuclear disarmament, a divergence that exists not only between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states but also among non-nuclear-weapon states that are exposed to the threat of nuclear weapons and those that are not. Considering these circumstances, it is necessary to persistently advance realistic and practical measures with the cooperation of nuclear-weapon states in order to promote nuclear disarmament.

Japan continues to pursue bridge building between nuclear-weapon states and non-nuclear-weapon states with the aim of realizing a world without nuclear weapons. It has done this through such means as holding meetings of the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament, submitting a draft resolution for the total elimination of nuclear weapons to the UN General Assembly, and utilizing the framework of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) and bilateral consultations. Moreover, Japan intends to carry out realistic and practical measures that also involve nuclear-weapon states, including maintaining and strengthening the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), promoting entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and commencing negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT).

### A Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

Japan places great importance on maintaining and strengthening the NPT, which is the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. NPT Review Conferences have been held once every five years with the aim of achieving the goals of the treaty and ensuring compliance with its provisions, and discussions that reflect the international situation of the time have been held since the treaty entered into force in 1970. At the Review Conference held in 2015, discussions failed to arrive at a consensus regarding the establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction and other issues, and the Conference ended without a consensus document. Against this backdrop, there is a growing importance for efforts aimed at the next NPT Review Conference.

The third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, held from April to May 2019 in New York, was attended by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Tsuji Kiyoto, who held a general debate. Meanwhile, the Government of Japan has actively participated in discussions through issuing statements at each cluster; cooperating with NPDI member countries to submit working papers concerning Disarmament and non-proliferation education, and transparency; leading efforts to formulate joint statements on Disarmament and non-proliferation education; and holding side events. (see the Special Feature on page 203).

### B Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament

The “Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament” (EPG; consisting of 17 experts from countries of different positions, including Japan) was launched by Japan in 2017 with the goals of rebuilding trust among countries with divergent views on how to

proceed with nuclear disarmament and of obtaining recommendations that will contribute to the substantive advancement of nuclear disarmament. The Group compiled its recommendations based on discussions in the first meeting in November 2017 and the second meeting in March 2018, and the same recommendations were proposed at the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in April 2018. The third and fourth meetings were held in November 2018 in Nagasaki and March 2019 in Kyoto. Based on discussions at these meetings, further discussions were held concerning international initiatives needed to carry out nuclear disarmament under the present circumstances. These latter discussions culminated in the “Kyoto Appeal,” which Prefectural University of Kumamoto Chancellor and EPG Chair Shiraishi Takashi submitted to Foreign Minister Kono in April. Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Tsuji Kiyoto presented the Kyoto Appeal at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. During the fifth meeting, held in July in Tokyo, meeting members agreed to produce a report encompassing all discussions heretofore held at EPG meetings. The “Chair’s Report” was submitted to State Minister for Foreign Affairs Wakamiya Kenji by EPG Chair Shiraishi in October.

### **C The Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI)**

The NPDI, a group of 12 non-nuclear-weapon states from various regions established under the leadership of Japan and Australia in 2010 has served as a bridge between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states. It leads efforts in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation through its realistic and practical proposals

with the involvement of the foreign ministers of its member states. The NPDI has actively contributed to the NPT review process through realistic and practical proposals, including the submission of 19 working papers to the 2015 NPT Review process and 15 to the 2020 NPT Review<sup>6</sup> process.

At the 10th NPDI Ministerial Meeting, co-organized by Japan and Australia and held during the G20 Aichi-Nagoya Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in November, an NPDI Joint Ministerial Statement was issued concerning the importance of maintaining and strengthening the NPT framework.

### **D Initiatives Through the United Nations (Resolution on Nuclear Disarmament)**

Since 1994, Japan has submitted draft resolutions on the elimination of nuclear weapons to the UN General Assembly. They incorporate issues of the time related to nuclear disarmament, as well as concrete and practical measures toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons. As a means to facilitate the building of a common ground between nuclear-weapon states and non-nuclear-weapon states, the 2019 resolution focused on joint courses of action to be taken immediately by the international community toward nuclear disarmament as well as the importance of future-oriented dialogues. The resolution was adopted with the broad support of 148 countries at the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in November and of 160 countries at the Plenary Meeting of the UN General Assembly in December. While other resolutions that comprehensively addressed nuclear disarmament were submitted to the General Assembly in addition to Japan’s draft resolution on the total elimination of nuclear weapons, Japan has enjoyed support among a larger number of states. For more than 20 years, Japan’s resolutions have continued to enjoy the broad support of states with divergent

<sup>6</sup> In March 2020, the UN announced that States Parties had reached an agreement to postpone the conference that had been scheduled for April but was postponed due to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and that, should circumstances permit, the conference would be held no later than April 2021. For convenience’ sake, the statement refers to the conference as the “2020 NPT Review Conference.”

Special  
Feature

## Initiatives Toward the Convention of the NPT Review Conference

The Review Conference for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Non-Proliferation Treaty, or NPT) is scheduled to be convened in 2020. It is also a milestone year that marks the 50th year since the NPT entered into force, and the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The NPT aims to realize nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and 191 states are parties to the treaty (as of December 2010), with the exclusion of India, Pakistan, Israel, and South Sudan.

At the 2015 NPT Review Conference, the parties failed to reach an agreement on the issue of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction\*<sup>1</sup>, and the Conference concluded without the adoption of a draft final document. Thereafter, amidst the growing severity of the security environment surrounding Japan, differences in opinion surrounding nuclear disarmament were also observed within the international community. Nevertheless, the NPT has a major role to play in securing peace and security in the international community, and the Government of Japan places great importance on maintaining and strengthening the NPT regime, and is doubling its efforts to that end.

In the three years prior to 2020, the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference was held every year. At the First Session of the Preparatory Committee held in May 2017, discussions were held on the status of compliance with the NPT's three pillars of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Foreign Minister Kishida attended this meeting, where he appealed for the importance of rebuilding relationships of trust between countries, and announced the launch of the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament (see 4(1) (b)) to provide recommendations to that end.

At the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee convened in April 2018, Foreign Minister Kono introduced the recommendations submitted by the aforementioned Group of Eminent Persons, and also contributed actively to the theme-based discussions.

At the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee held in April 2019, discussions were held on the proposed recommendations by the chair to the 2020 NPT Review Conference. However, the parties could not bridge the gap in their opinions on matters such as the approach to nuclear disarmament and the regional issues, and failed to reach an agreement on the chair's recommendation. Despite this situation, the Government of Japan held a side event at this session of the Preparatory Committee, on the "Kyoto Appeal"\*<sup>2</sup> submitted by the Group of Eminent Persons to MOFA, and on enhancing transparency on the status of fulfillment of the obligations and commitments under the NPT by each country. At the same time, under Japan's leadership, 55 countries came together to issue a joint statement on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education\*<sup>3</sup>. As a member of the Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) (see 4(1) (c)), Japan also contributed to discussions at the Preparatory Committee for the NPDI through the submission of working papers and holding a side event.

In November 2019, the 10th Ministerial Meeting of the NPDI was convened with Foreign Minister Motegi as co-chair. At this meeting, an NPDI joint ministerial statement was issued, setting forth NPDI's commitment toward maintaining and strengthening the NPT regime.

On the other hand, even after a number of such discussions, differences in standpoint remain among countries in the international community, over matters such as the vision for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, and the approach to nuclear disarmament such as the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The pillar of non-proliferation is also confronted by the question of how to settle the arguments on matters such as the positioning of Additional Protocols (AP) (see 4(2) (a)), and the relationship between non-proliferation measures and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Despite the considerable number of difficult issues, the Government of Japan has continued to implement practical and concrete initiatives and proposals so as to ensure that the 2020 NPT Review Conference produces a meaningful outcome. As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings during war, Japan will continue to put in place concrete initiatives toward the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons, through means such as the utilization of the outcomes of discussions by the Group of Eminent Persons, resolutions aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons, and the activities of the NPDI.



Foreign Minister Kono attending the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference (April 2018, Geneva, Switzerland)



Foreign Minister Motegi attending the 10th Ministerial Meeting of the NPDI (November 2019, Nagoya)

\*1 At the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, the Middle East Resolution was adopted through a joint proposal by the three depository states of the U.S., Russia, and the UK. This Resolution aims to establish a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, including nuclear weapons. However, partly due to differences in views between the Arab nations and Israel, the zone has not been established even to the present day (as of December 2019).

\*2 At the third session (November 2018, Nagasaki) and fourth session (March 2019, Kyoto) of the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament, discussions were held on the initiatives that the international community has to implement in order to advance nuclear disarmament under the current conditions. The "Kyoto Appeal," which summarizes the results of the discussions, was submitted to Foreign Minister Kono in April the same year.

\*3 Japan has taken the lead in the formulation of the Joint Statement on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education, which aims to call for attention among the parties to the need for disarmament and non-proliferation education in the NPT process and to realistic methods for advancing such education, as well as demonstrate once again Japan's presence in this area. At the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee held in 2019, a joint statement was prepared that emphasizes cooperation between countries and other entities, the further utilization of the Internet and social media, and the importance of greater commitment among young people. This joint statement was approved by 55 countries including the UK, which is a nuclear-weapon state.

views in the international community.

### **E Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)**

Japan attaches great importance to promoting the entry into force of the CTBT as a realistic measure of nuclear disarmament where both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states can participate. Japan also has continued diplomatic efforts to encourage countries that have not signed or ratified the CTBT, including those countries whose ratifications are required for its entry-into-force. Zimbabwe ratified the CTBT in February. At the 11th Conference on

Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT held in September, Foreign Minister Motegi presented Japan's initiatives toward facilitating the entry into force of the CTBT and expressed his hope and determination for the steady advancement of nuclear disarmament efforts.

### **F Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT: Cut-off Treaty)<sup>7</sup>**

A Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT) has great significance for both disarmament and non-proliferation as it would prevent the emergence of new states possessing nuclear-weapons by banning the production of fissile materials

<sup>7</sup> A treaty concept that aims to prevent the increase in the number of nuclear weapons by prohibiting the production of fissile materials (such as enriched uranium and plutonium) that are used as materials to produce nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.



such as highly-enriched uranium and plutonium for weapons purposes. At the same time, it limits the production of nuclear weapons by nuclear-weapon states. For many years, however, no agreement has been reached on commencing negotiations for the treaty in the Conference on Disarmament (CD). Consequently, it was decided at the 71st UN General Assembly in December 2016 to establish the FMCT High-Level Experts Preparatory Group. Japan actively participated in the Group's discussions, and through discussions at the 1st meeting (August 2017) and 2nd meeting (June 2018), a report was adopted that includes possible options for the outline of a future treaty and content to consider in negotiations. The report was submitted to the 73rd UN General Assembly. Japan will continue actively contributing to FMCT discussions.

## **G Disarmament and Non-proliferation Education**

As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings, Japan places great importance on education in disarmament and non-proliferation. Specifically, Japan has been actively engaged in efforts to convey the realities of the devastation caused by the use of nuclear weapons to people both within Japan and overseas, through activities such as translating the testimonies of atomic bomb survivors into other languages, invitations for young diplomats from other countries to go to Hiroshima and Nagasaki through the UN Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament,<sup>8</sup> providing assistance for holding atomic bomb exhibitions overseas through its overseas diplomatic missions,<sup>9</sup> and designating atomic bomb survivors who have given testimonies of their atomic bomb experiences as “Special Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons.” In 2019, the “Under a Mushroom

Cloud: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and the Atomic Bomb” exhibition was held in Los Angeles and two other cities in the U.S.

Additionally, as the atomic bomb survivors age, it is becoming increasingly important to pass on the realities of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings across generations and borders. To this end, from 2013 to 2019, Japan conferred the designation of “Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons” for more than 300 youths in Japan and overseas.

## **(2) Non-proliferation and Nuclear Security**

### **A Japan's Efforts of Non-Proliferation**

To ensure Japan's security and to maintain peace and security of the international community, Japan has been making efforts concerning non-proliferation policy. The goal of such policy is to prevent the proliferation of weapons that could threaten Japan or the international community (weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear weapons and biological/chemical weapons, as well as missiles with the ability to deliver said weapons and conventional weapons) and of related materials and technologies used to develop such weapons.

In today's international community, economic growth in emerging countries has enabled a growing capacity to produce and supply weapons in those countries as well as materials that could be diverted to the development of such weapons. Meanwhile, methods for procuring these materials are becoming more sophisticated, due in part to increasing complexity in means of distribution.

Furthermore, the emergence of new technologies is spurring a growing potential for private sector technologies to be diverted to uses for military purposes, and increasing the proliferation risk of weapons that could pose a threat and of related materials and technologies.

<sup>8</sup> Implemented since 1983 by the UN to nurture nuclear disarmament experts. Program participants are invited to Hiroshima and Nagasaki and taught the realities of atomic bombing through such means as museum tours and talks by victims about their experiences in the atomic bombings.

<sup>9</sup> Opened as a permanent exhibition about the atomic bomb in New York, U.S.; Geneva, Switzerland; and Vienna, Austria, in cooperation with Hiroshima City and Nagasaki City.

Under these circumstances, Japan has been implementing its non-proliferation policies, focusing on maintaining and strengthening international non-proliferation regimes and rules, taking appropriate non-proliferation measures domestically, and promoting close coordination with and capacity building support for other nations.

Japan's three main measures of preventing proliferation are (1) IAEA safeguards, (2) export control, and (3) the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).

Safeguards refer to verification activities conducted in accordance with safeguards agreements between states and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and aim to ensure that nuclear energy will not be diverted from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

As a designated member of the IAEA Board of Governors,<sup>10</sup> Japan has made various efforts, including supporting the IAEA. For example, based on the view that the IAEA safeguards are at the core of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime, Japan enhances the understanding and implementation capabilities of safeguards of other countries. Japan also encourages other countries to conclude the Additional Protocol (AP)<sup>11</sup> to the IAEA safeguards agreements by supporting the IAEA's regional seminars, as well as through other forums. Furthermore, Japan actively contributes to regional and international efforts to strengthen safeguards through efforts such as attending and acting as facilitator in the area of human resources development at the Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network (APSN) held in August, in which the IAEA participated as an observer and which aims to strengthen safeguards in the Asia-Pacific region.



Meeting between Foreign Minister Motegi and IAEA Director General Grossi (February 25, 2020, Tokyo)

In the election to determine the next IAEA Director General held following the passing of IAEA Director General Amano Yukiya in July (see the Column on page 209), Argentina-born Mr. Grossi was elected to the first Director General from the Latin American region. Mr. Grossi has expressed his intention to address the problem of nuclear non-proliferation with professionalism and technological expertise. During his visit to Japan as a guest of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in February 2020, he paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Abe and held a meeting with Foreign Minister Motegi. Japan and the IAEA shared the view that both sides would work together to build a further cooperative relationship. Japan will continue providing utmost support to Director General Grossi, who has extensive knowledge and experience in the field of nuclear non-proliferation, and will continue to work with other member countries to strengthen the role of the IAEA.

Export control is a useful measure in the so-called supply-side regulation toward countries of proliferation concern, terrorist organizations, and other entities attempting to acquire or distribute weapons or related materials or technologies. There are currently four export control

<sup>10</sup> 13 countries are designated by the IAEA Board of Governors. The designated member states include Japan and other G7 countries with advanced nuclear energy capabilities.

<sup>11</sup> An Additional Protocol is concluded in addition to a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement that is applied on all nuclear materials pertaining to the peaceful nuclear activities in that country, and that non-nuclear-weapon NPT States Parties must conclude with the IAEA pursuant to Article 3 Paragraph 1 of the NPT. The conclusion of the Additional Protocol expands the scope of nuclear activity information that should be declared to the IAEA, and gives the IAEA strengthened measures to verify the absence of undeclared nuclear materials and activities. As of October 2019, 136 countries have concluded the Additional Protocol.

frameworks (international export control regimes) in the international community. Japan has participated in all of them since their inception, engaging in international coordination and practicing strict export control. Each of the four regimes, namely the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) for nuclear weapons, the Australia Group (AG) for chemical and biological weapons, the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) for missiles,<sup>12</sup> and the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) for conventional weapons, establishes a list of dual-use items and technologies which contribute to weapons development. To ensure the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons, participating countries to the regimes implement export control measures on the listed items and technologies in accordance with their domestic laws. The export control regimes also exchange information concerning trends in countries of proliferation concern and are engaged in outreach activities to non-participating countries to the regimes in order to strengthen their export control. Japan actively engages in such international rule-making and application of rules, and makes various contributions. Additionally, in terms of international contributions in nuclear non-proliferation, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna serves as the Point of Contact of the NSG.

Furthermore, Japan seeks to complement the activities of the international export control

regimes by actively participating in the activities of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).<sup>13</sup> Through efforts such as hosting the maritime interdiction exercise “Pacific Shield 18”<sup>14</sup> in July 2018, Japan is working to enhance coordination among countries and concerned institutions.



Ship embarkation during a PSI training organized by Japan (July 25, 2018, off Boso Peninsula)

Japan also holds Asia Senior-level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP)<sup>15</sup> and Asian Export Control Seminars<sup>16</sup> every year in order to promote a better understanding of the non-proliferation regimes and strengthen regional efforts, mainly in Asian countries. At the 15th ASTOP, held in March, discussions were conducted concerning strengthening export control as well as PSI, the IAEA’s safeguards, and the Additional Protocol. 32 countries and regions participated in the 26th Asian Export Control Seminar, held in February. At the seminar, participants held discussions concerning measures to strengthen the effectiveness

<sup>12</sup> Apart from export control regimes, the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCCOC), which includes the principle of exercising restraint in their development and deployment, addresses the issue of ballistic missiles. 143 countries subscribe to the HCCOC.

<sup>13</sup> 107 countries participate in and support the PSI as of December 2019. In the past, in addition to hosting PSI maritime interdiction exercises in 2004, 2007, and 2018, and air interdiction exercises in 2012, Japan also hosted an Operational Experts Group (OEG) meeting in 2010 in Tokyo. Japan has also actively participated in training and related conferences hosted by other countries. This includes a rotation exercise in the Asia-Pacific region and the High-Level Political Meeting in the U.S. in January 2016. Most recently, Japan took part in a High-Level Political Meeting to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the PSI, held in France in May 2018.

<sup>14</sup> Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the ROK, Singapore, and the U.S. contributed assets and personnel to the exercise, which was held in Yokosuka City, off the Boso Peninsula and the Izu Peninsula, and 19 countries from Indo-Pacific region and other countries sent observers.

<sup>15</sup> A multilateral Director-General-level meeting hosted by Japan to discuss various issues related to the strengthening of the nonproliferation regime in Asia among the ten ASEAN Member States, China, India, the ROK, as well as the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and France, which have common interests in Asian regional security. The last ASTOP was held in March 2019.

<sup>16</sup> A seminar hosted by Japan to exchange views and information toward strengthening export controls in Asia, with the participation of export control officials from Asian countries and regions. It has been organized annually in Tokyo since 1993 and was most recently held in February 2020.

of export control with a view to capacity building for export control personnel in Asian countries and regions.

Furthermore, with regards to the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540,<sup>17</sup> which was adopted in 2004 with the aim of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery (missiles) to non-state actors, Japan contributes to maintaining and strengthening international non-proliferation frameworks through Japan's contributions to support the execution of the resolution by Asian nations.

### **B Regional Non-proliferation Issues**

North Korea has not carried out the dismantlement of all weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles of all ranges in a complete, verifiable, and irreversible manner in accordance with a series of relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

The second U.S.-North Korea Summit between the U.S. and North Korea was held in Hanoi, Viet Nam in February. President Trump and Chairman of State Affairs Commission Kim Jong-un met and held negotiation in Panmunjom in June. In the meantime, North Korea frequently and repeatedly conducted launches of ballistic missiles, counting more than 20 from May to November. Under these circumstances, it is important that the international community remains united to support the process between the U.S. and North Korea toward the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Meanwhile, the IAEA Acting Director General's report in August pointed out activities at some nuclear facilities in North Korea continued or developed further. It also noted that North Korea's nuclear activities remain a cause for serious concern, and that these activities are clear violations of UN Security Council resolutions and that it is regrettable. At the IAEA General Conference in September, a resolution based on the report was adopted by consensus, and IAEA member countries expressed their solidarity on achieving the denuclearization of North Korea.

Japan will continue to coordinate closely with related countries, including the U.S. and the ROK, as well as international organizations such as the IAEA, toward the complete, verifiable, and irreversible dismantlement of all of North Korea's weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles of all ranges in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions. In addition, from the viewpoint of the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions, Japan will work on capacity building for export control particularly in Asia.

With respect to Iran, the IAEA has continuously monitored and verified Iran's implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)<sup>18</sup> since January 2016. In May 2018, the U.S. announced its withdrawal from the JCPOA, and sanctions against Iran were reapplied in August and November. In response, Iran announced a phased suspension of its commitments under the JCPOA in May 2019. It has taken a succession

<sup>17</sup> Adopted in April 2004, Resolution 1540 obliges all countries to: (1) refrain from providing support to terrorists and other non-state actors attempting to develop weapons of mass destruction; (2) adopt and enforce laws prohibiting the development of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists and other non-state actors; and (3) implement domestic controls (protective measures, border control, export controls, etc.) to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The resolution also establishes, under the UN Security Council, the 1540 Committee, which comprises Security Council members and has a mandate to review and report to the Security Council the level of Resolution 1540 implementation by member states.

<sup>18</sup> Sets forth detailed procedures for imposing constraints on Iran's nuclear activities while ensuring that they serve peaceful purposes, and for lifting the imposed sanctions.

<Main measures undertaken by Iran>

● Constraints on enriched uranium-related activities

- Limit on the number of centrifuges in operation to 5,060 unit
- Upper limit on enriched uranium at 3.67%, and limit on the amount of stored enriched uranium at 300 kg, etc.

● Constraints on the Arak heavy-water nuclear reactor, and reprocessing

- Redesign / remodeling of the Arak heavy-water nuclear reactor so that it is not able to produce weapon-grade plutonium and to transfer spent fuel out of the country
- No reprocessing including for research purposes, no construction of reprocessing facilities, etc.

## Column

## Footprints Left Behind by Mr. Amano as Director General of the IAEA

Mr. Amano Yukiya, who was the first Japanese to be elected as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in December 2009, and continued to serve as the IAEA's fifth Director General for nearly ten years thereafter, passed away in July 2019, midway through his term. He did his work as Director General of the IAEA with sincerity and left behind many great achievements. Known also for his diligence, joke-loving and friendly nature, Mr. Amano was adored by the IAEA staff and people from all walks of life. On his passing, leading figures from various countries, including U.S. Secretary of State Pompeo, Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov, and Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif, and countless others from Japan and abroad, expressed their condolences and honored his achievements.

This column features some of Director General Amano's achievements.



Address at IAEA's 60th anniversary event  
(Photo: IAEA)

### 1. Response to the nuclear accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

In response to the nuclear accident that occurred at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station on March 11, 2011, the Government of Japan reported the accident to the IAEA in April as a Level 7 accident (major accident)\* on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES). One week after the accident, Director General Amano visited Japan to consult with the Government of Japan, and strived to grasp the situation accurately for himself by visiting the sites in July the same year and December the following year. Under his leadership, the IAEA cooperated with Japan on the initial response, including the Director General's visit to the site immediately after the accident and the provision of information to the international community, and through the advices about measures on decommissioning and contaminated water. The IAEA also disseminated objective and science-based information about the accident. After that, Director General Amano prepared "The Fukushima Daiichi Accident - The Report by the Director General," in which he presented an assessment of the causes and results of the accident. Furthermore, he also worked on the preparation and implementation of an action plan based on the lessons learned from the accident in order to improve nuclear safety in the world, which is one of the important roles of the IAEA.

### 2. Efforts toward the issue of non-proliferation

The IAEA has the important mission of responding to the issue of non-proliferation, a challenge that the international community is confronted by today.

The start of the implementation (January 2016) of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), agreed in July 2015, was made possible by Director General Amano's personal visit to Iran in September 2015, and the final assessment by the IAEA in December the same year on outstanding issues related to possible military dimensions regarding Iran's nuclear program. Thereafter, Director General Amano took responsibility for directing the important activities of verifying and monitoring Iran's implementation of nuclear-related commitments under the JCPOA, in IAEA's spirit of impartiality and professionalism. Mr. Amano is probably one of the most well-known Japanese people in Iran today.

Although the IAEA is currently unable to conduct activities in North Korea, it regularly publishes reports on North Korea's nuclear issue. Moreover, in the summer of 2017 when there were heightened tensions over North Korea's nuclear and missile issues, the IAEA proactively responded the situation under Director General Amano's leadership, enhancing its capacity by promptly establishing a "DPRK Team" within the IAEA.

### 3. "Atoms for Peace and Development"

Director General Amano pursued the wide range of possibilities of nuclear technology. Taking the opportunity of IAEA's 60th anniversary in 2017, he changed IAEA's motto from "Atoms for Peace" to "Atoms for Peace and Development," and made efforts to promote the use of nuclear technology in a wide range of sectors in developing countries, such as medical care and agriculture, as well as the Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories (ReNuAL) project of the IAEA.

At the IAEA General Conference held in 2019 after Director General Amano's passing, his achievements were commended and a resolution was adopted to name one of the research buildings of the IAEA Seibersdorf laboratories located in the suburbs of Vienna, Austria the "Yukiya Amano Laboratory." This research building was scheduled to commence operation in the spring of 2020.

We highly esteem Director General Amano's leadership and achievements, and once again express our deep respect for his dedication in life. We will also continue to provide our full support for the efforts of Director General Grossi who succeeded Mr. Amano, and will strive to strengthen the IAEA's role in close cooperation with other member states.

\*International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES): International indicator was developed jointly by the IAEA and the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD/NEA) in 1990 to communicate the safety significance of accidents and incidents in nuclear facilities, etc. It is classified into seven levels. Use of the scale in Japan began in 1992. In cases where radioactive substances are released into the environment, the incident would basically be rated as INES Level 4 or higher. The criteria, which is calculated as an equivalent dose of iodine, for determining each level is as follows: Level 7: More than several tens of thousands of terabecquerels; Level 6 (serious accident): the order of thousands to tens of thousands of terabecquerels; Level 5 (accident with wider consequences): the order of hundreds to thousands of terabecquerels; Level 4 (accident with local consequences): the order of tens to hundreds of terabecquerels. The level of radioactive substance emissions from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident was approximately 630,000 trillion becquerels at the time of the announcement by the (then) Japanese Nuclear Safety Commission, and about 370,000 trillion becquerels based on the estimate by the (then) Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (both are calculated as an equivalent dose of iodine).

of steps that include exceeding the limit on the stockpile of low-enriched uranium and level of uranium enrichment, conducting activities related to its centrifuge research and development beyond the limits of the JCPOA and restarting uranium enrichment activities at a fuel enrichment facility in Fordow, located in Qom County in central Iran. In November, the IAEA Director General reported that the IAEA detected natural uranium particles at a location in Iran not declared to the IAEA. In light of this situation, Director General Grossi said he would tackle Iran's nuclear problem in a firm but fair way.

Japan, deeply concerned about Iran's continued reduction of its commitments under the JCPOA, strongly urges Iran to comply with the JCPOA, and to immediately return to its commitments, while also strongly urging Iran to refrain from further measures that may undermine the JCPOA. Japan is also calling upon Iran to fully cooperate

with the IAEA based on the JCPOA and in accordance with all its nuclear obligations, in particular its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA), and the Additional Protocol.

With respect to Syria's implementation of the IAEA safeguards, it is important that Syria fully cooperates with the IAEA and that Syria signs, ratifies and implements the Additional Protocol in order to clarify the facts.

### Nuclear Security

With regards to nuclear security that aims to prevent acts of terrorism such as those involving the use of nuclear and other radioactive materials, the IAEA, the UN, and like-minded countries have strengthened international cooperation on nuclear security through various efforts. These include the Nuclear Security Summit, which was hosted by then U.S. President Obama and held four times between 2010 and 2016, and the International



conference on Nuclear Security, organized by the IAEA. Japan continues to actively participate in and contribute to these efforts.

Based on “the Practical Arrangements between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the International Atomic Energy Agency on Cooperation in the Area of Support to the Implementation of Nuclear Security Measures on the Occasion of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games,” signed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the IAEA in February 2018, relevant Japanese ministries and organizations conducted a table-top exercise on nuclear security measures for major public events with the participation of experts from the IAEA and the U.S. in October, 2019.

In November 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized the International Transport Security Symposium on nuclear and other radioactive materials in collaboration with the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA). More than 100 experts from international organizations including the IAEA and relevant countries participated in this symposium, and shared good practices and exchanged views on common challenges related to transport security.

### (3) Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

#### **A** Multilateral Efforts

Along with nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are considered to be one of the three pillars of the NPT. According to the treaty, it is the “inalienable right” for any country that meets its obligations to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation to develop research, production, and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Reflecting the increase in international energy demand, many

countries use or are planning to use nuclear power.<sup>19</sup>

On the other hand, these nuclear materials, equipment, and technologies used for nuclear power generation can be diverted to uses for military purposes, and a nuclear accident in one country may have significant impacts on neighboring countries. For these reasons, with regard to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, it is vital to ensure the “3S”<sup>20</sup>: that is, (1) Safeguards, (2) Nuclear Safety (e.g. measures to ensure safety to prevent nuclear accidents), and (3) Nuclear Security. As the country that experienced the TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident, it is Japan’s responsibility to share its experiences and lessons learned from the accident with other countries and to contribute to strengthening global nuclear safety. In this regard, Japan and the IAEA have been working in cooperation. The IAEA Response and Assistance Network (RANET) Capacity Building Centre (CBC) in Fukushima Prefecture was designated in 2013 and workshops were held in August and November in 2019, for Japanese and foreign officials to strengthen their capabilities in the field of emergency preparedness and response.

Decommissioning, contaminated water management, decontamination and environmental remediation have been progressing steadily at the TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. Nevertheless, these works are difficult in ways that are unprecedented in the world, and efforts have been made to tackle the challenges by leveraging collective technologies and knowledge of the world. Japan has been cooperating closely with the IAEA since the accident. In June 2019, Japan hosted an expert mission of the IAEA on marine monitoring. In addition, the UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) published a report in 2014

<sup>19</sup> According to the IAEA, as of January 2020, 447 nuclear reactors are in operation worldwide and 52 reactors are under construction (see the IAEA website).

<sup>20</sup> “3S” is used to refer to the IAEA’s efforts toward nuclear safety, nuclear security, and nuclear safeguards, which are typical measures for non-proliferation.

on the levels and the impact of radiation from the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident, and the report has been updated since 2018 in order to carry out assessment based on the latest information.

It is necessary to disseminate accurate information in a timely and appropriate manner in order to make progress in the decommissioning works and to promote recovery, with the support and correct understanding of the international community. From this perspective, Japan periodically releases comprehensive reports through the IAEA that cover matters such as progress in decommissioning and contaminated water management at the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, results of the monitoring of air dose rate and seawater radioactivity concentration, and food safety. In addition, Japan submits reports on the current situation to all the Diplomatic Missions in Tokyo and to the IAEA every month in principle. Furthermore, Japan has organized more than 100 briefing sessions to all the Diplomatic Missions in Tokyo since the accident, and provided information through overseas diplomatic establishments. With respect to the status of contaminated water management at the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, Japan prepared an information sheet in English in order to clearly explain the difference between contaminated water and ALPS-treated water,<sup>21</sup> which are often confused, to the international community, and distributed the information sheet at international conferences including the IAEA General Conference held in Vienna in September 2019.<sup>22</sup> Japan continues to provide information to the international community in a courteous and transparent manner, based on scientific evidence, and to make explanations securely so as to prevent causing further reputational damage.

Nuclear energy is applied not only to the field

of power generation, but also to areas including human health, food and agriculture, environment, and industrial uses. Promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in such non-power applications and contributing to development issues are becoming increasingly important as developing countries make up the majority of NPT member states. The IAEA also contributes to technical cooperation for developing countries and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Against this background, Japan has been providing active support to the IAEA's activities, through such means as the Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) and IAEA technical cooperation that includes cooperation based on the Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development, and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology (RCA). At the NPT Review Conference held in April 2015, Japan announced that it would be contributing a total of 25 million US dollars over five years to the PUI. In 2019, through the PUI, Japan supported IAEA projects including the renovation project of the IAEA's Seibersdorf Laboratories.

### **B** Bilateral Nuclear Cooperation Agreement

Bilateral nuclear cooperation agreements are concluded to secure a legal assurance from the recipient country, when transferring nuclear-related material and equipment, that the transferred items will be used only for peaceful purposes. The agreements especially aim to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and ensure non-proliferation.

Moreover, as Japan attaches importance to ensuring the "3S," recent nuclear agreements between Japan and other countries have set out provisions regarding nuclear safety and nuclear security to affirm mutual compliance

<sup>21</sup> ALPS-treated water is water purified using multiple purification systems, including advanced liquid processing systems (ALPS).

<sup>22</sup> The most recent English language materials that are distributed at IAEA General Conferences and other assemblies and that concern the differences between polluted water and ALPS-treated water are available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000564692.pdf>).



with international treaties on nuclear safety and nuclear security. They have also facilitated the promotion of cooperation in the field of nuclear safety under the agreements.

Countries in the world continue to express their high expectations to Japan's nuclear technology, even after the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident. Taking into account the situations, intentions, and desires of the partner countries, Japan can continue to provide nuclear-related material, equipment, and technology with the highest safety standards. Furthermore, in bilateral nuclear cooperation, Japan is called upon to share its experience and lessons learned from the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident and to continue cooperating on improving nuclear safety with other countries. When considering whether or not to establish a nuclear cooperation agreement framework with a foreign country, Japan considers the overall situation in each individual case, taking into account such factors as non-proliferation, nuclear energy policy in that country, the country's trust in and expectations for Japan, and the bilateral relationship between the two countries. As of the end of 2019, Japan has concluded nuclear cooperation agreements with Canada, Australia, China, the U.S., France, the UK, the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), Kazakhstan, the ROK, Viet Nam, Jordan, Russia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and India<sup>23</sup> in the order of effective date.

#### (4) Biological and Chemical Weapons

##### **A Biological Weapons**

The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)<sup>24</sup> is the only multilateral legal framework imposing a comprehensive ban on the development, production, and possession of biological weapons. However, the question of how to reinforce the convention is a challenge as there are neither

provisions governing the means of verifying compliance with the BWC nor an implementing organization for the convention.

Since 2006, decisions have been made to establish the Implementation Support Unit (fulfilling the functions of a Secretariat) and to hold inter-sessional meetings twice a year in between the Review Conferences held every five years. During this time, progress has been made with respect to initiatives aimed at strengthening the regime of the BWC.

Agreement has been reached with regard to discussing the five topics, namely international cooperation, reviews of developments in the field of science and technology, national implementation, assistance for preparedness and response, and institutional strengthening of the convention. The discussions are to be conducted at the inter-sessional meetings up until the ninth Review Conference, scheduled to be held in 2021. Japan actively participated in discussing these themes at the December 2019 Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention.

##### **B Chemical Weapons**

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)<sup>25</sup> imposes a comprehensive ban on the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons, and stipulates that all existing chemical weapons must be destroyed. Compliance is ensured through a verification system consisting of declarations and inspections, making this convention a groundbreaking international agreement on the disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The implementing body of the CWC is the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which is based in the Hague, the Netherlands. Along with the UN, the OPCW has played a key role in the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons. Its extensive efforts toward the realization of

<sup>23</sup> Negotiations are currently ongoing concerning the agreement with the UK.

<sup>24</sup> Entered into force in March 1975. There are 183 Signatory States as of December 2019.

<sup>25</sup> Entered into force in April 1997. There are 193 Signatory States as of December 2019.

a world without chemical weapons were highly acclaimed, and the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013.

Japan, which has a highly developed chemicals industry and numerous chemicals factories, also accepts many OPCW inspections. Japan also actively cooperates with the OPCW in many other concrete ways, including measures to increase the number of member states and strengthening national implementation measures by States Parties with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of the convention. Moreover, under the CWC, Japan aims to complete, as soon as possible, the destruction of chemical weapons of the former Japanese Army abandoned in Chinese territory by working in cooperation with China.

During his visit to Japan in June, OPCW Director-General Arias agreed to continue coordinating with Japan.

### (5) Conventional Weapons

Conventional weapons generally refer to arms other than weapons of mass destruction and include a wide variety of weapons ranging from large weapons such as landmines, tanks, and artillery to small arms and light weapons such as handguns. The problem of conventional weapons, which are used in actual wars and cause injury and death to civilians, is a serious one for both national security and humanitarian concerns. The disarmament agenda presented in 2018 by UN Secretary-General Guterres categorizes disarmament of conventional weapons as one of the three pillars, “Disarmament that Saves Lives.” Japan is making active efforts involving cooperation and support based on international standards and principles concerning conventional weapons.

#### **A** Small Arms and Light Weapons

Described as “the real weapons of mass destruction” due to the many human lives they

take, small arms and light weapons continue to proliferate due to the ease with which they can be obtained and used. They contribute to conflict prolongation and escalation, hindering the restoration of public security and post-conflict reconstruction and development. Since 1995, Japan has been working with other countries to submit a resolution on the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons to the UN General Assembly, and the resolution has been adopted every year. In areas around the world, Japan has also provided support for projects to address the issue of small arms and light weapons, including training and the collection and destruction of weapons. In 2019, Japan contributed two million US dollars to a mechanism for preventing small arms and light weapons established under UN Secretary-General Guterres’ disarmament agenda.

#### **B** The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)<sup>26</sup>

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which seeks to establish common standards to regulate international trade in and prevent the illicit trade of conventional arms, entered into force in December 2014. As one of the original co-authors of the UN General Assembly resolution that initiated a consideration of the treaty, Japan has taken the lead in discussions and negotiations in the UN and contributed significantly to the establishment of the treaty. Even after the treaty entered into force, Japan has actively participated in discussions at Conferences of States Parties and other opportunities. In August 2018, Japan hosted the 4th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty in Tokyo as the first chair country elected from the Asia-Pacific region.

<sup>26</sup> As of January 2020, there are 105 states and regions that are parties to the ATT. Japan signed the Treaty on the day that it was released for signing and became a State Party in May 2014.

### **C Convention on Prohibition or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW)<sup>27</sup>**

The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) prohibits or restricts the use of conventional weapons that are deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects. It comprises a framework convention that sets forth procedural and other matters, as well as five annexed protocols that regulate individual conventional arms. The framework convention entered into force in 1983. Japan has ratified the framework convention and annexed Protocols I to IV, including the amended Protocol II. Prompted by concerns in the international community about the rapidly advancing military applications of science and technology, meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) have been held under the CCW framework since 2017. At meetings of the Group held in March and August 2019, Japan again actively participated and contributed to discussions.

### **D Anti-personnel Mines**

2019 marks the 20th anniversary of the entering into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Treaty).<sup>28</sup> To date, Japan has continued to promote comprehensive measures with a focus on the effective prohibition of anti-personnel mines and strengthening of support for mine-affected countries. Along with calling on countries

in the Asia-Pacific region to ratify or accede to the Convention, since 1998 Japan has provided support worth over 78 billion Japanese yen to 51 countries and regions to assist them in dealing with the consequences of landmines (for example, landmine clearance and victim assistance).

In November 2019, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Asako Omi attended the 4th Review Conference of the Convention, held in Oslo, Norway. At the conference, Japan looked back on its initiatives and achievements in supporting mine action. It also expressed Japan's continued resolve toward playing an active role in achieving a mine-free world.

### **E Cluster Munitions<sup>29</sup>**

The international community takes very seriously the humanitarian consequences brought about by cluster munitions. Japan is therefore taking steps to address this issue via victim assistance and unexploded ordinance clearance,<sup>30</sup> while also continuing its efforts to increase the number of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).<sup>31</sup> At the September 2019 Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, Japan again participated in discussions concerning these issues.

## **5 Japan's Efforts at the United Nations**

### **(1) Japan-UN Relationship**

The UN is an international organization with a universal character and nearly all the countries in the world are members (193 countries as of December 2019). With a high level of expertise, it

<sup>27</sup> As of November 2018, 125 countries and regions are parties to the CCW.

<sup>28</sup> The Convention, which entered into force in March 1999, bans the use and production of anti-personnel mines while mandating the destruction of stockpiled mines and the clearance of buried mines. As of January 2020, there are 164 states and regions that are parties to the Convention, including Japan.

<sup>29</sup> Generally speaking, it refers to bombs or shells in the form of large containers that open midair and release submunitions that spread over a wide area. They are said to be highly likely to not explode on impact, leading to the problem of civilians being accidentally killed or injured.

<sup>30</sup> See the White Paper on Development Cooperation for specific efforts on international cooperation regarding cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines.

<sup>31</sup> Entered into force in August 2010, it prohibits the use, possession, or production of cluster munitions, while mandating the clearance of cluster munitions in contaminated areas and the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions. As of November 2019, there are 107 states and regions that are parties to the Convention, including Japan.

addresses various challenges that the international community faces in diverse areas such as conflict resolution and peacebuilding, counterterrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation, poverty and development, human rights, the refugee problem, the environment and climate change, disaster risk reduction, and infectious diseases.

Japan has been strengthening cooperative efforts through the UN in an effort to make a “proactive contribution to peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, and has been actively working to achieve diplomatic goals not achievable by one country alone. Japan has also served as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council 11 times, the most frequent among the Member States, fulfilling a key role in the maintenance of peace and security in the international community. Japan also continues to proactively engage in UN reform, including Security Council reform, so that the UN can cope more effectively with the various issues faced by the international community.

In September, Prime Minister Abe and Foreign Minister Motegi attended the high-level week of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly.

Prime Minister Abe referred to the international events to be held in Japan between 2019 and 2020 at the general debate, including the G20 Osaka Summit, the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), the Kyoto Congress, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. He also touched upon Japan's contributions to education and the role of women in society, regional situations such as those in North Korea in the Middle East, and the importance of addressing polarization by using multinational frameworks.

Prime Minister Abe attended the UN high-level meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and made a closing remarks that achieving UHC with the introduction of the national



UN Headquarters (Photo: UN Photo/Steven Bornholtz)



Prime Minister Abe attending a session of the UN General Assembly (September 24, New York, U.S.; Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

health insurance system provided a foundation for Japan's social and economic development and a healthy aging society. Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe referred to the discussions made at the G20 Osaka Summit and TICAD7, to promote a cross-sectoral approach, combining health development with nutrition, water and sanitation, as well as to strengthen health financing, and emphasized their importance.

At the SDG Summit, Prime Minister Abe shared the progress made in promoting the SDGs over the last four years, including achievements presented during the G20 Osaka Summit and TICAD7. Additionally, as the chief of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, whose members consist of the Prime Minister and his entire cabinet, Prime Minister Abe introduced the nationally concerted efforts that Japan has made toward achieving the SDGs, including the Japan SDGs Awards<sup>32</sup> and the

<sup>32</sup> Awarded to companies and groups taking exemplary initiatives toward achieving the SDGs



SDGs Future City<sup>33</sup> initiatives. He also expressed his intention to show, by December, an “SDGs Model,” by revising the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles, Japan’s mid- to long-term national strategy for the promotion of the SDGs.

Prime Minister Abe also held summit meetings with the U.S., Iran and Jordan, held talks with President-Elect of the European Council Michel (Prime Minister of Belgium) and UN Secretary-General Guterres, and participated in a dinner with European Council President Tusk. In addition, Olympic Committee Chairman Bach and 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nadia Murad made courtesy calls to the Prime Minister.

In the meeting with Secretary-General Guterres, both sides affirmed the importance of the reform of the UN, including the Security Council, as the UN approaches its 75th anniversary in 2020. There was also an exchange of views on North Korea, during which they affirmed the importance of the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions. Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe issued a renewed call for understanding of and cooperation for the prompt resolution of the abductions issue, a call for which Secretary-General Guterres offered his support.

Foreign Minister Motegi, in addition to holding a meeting of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development, attended a total of seven multilateral meetings that included a Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Ministerial as well as the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 on UN Security Council reform. 11 Foreign Ministers’ Meetings, including between Japan and the U.S. and Japan and China, were held that saw countries’ foreign ministers strengthen trust-based relationships with one another through the opportunity afforded by their attendance at the UN General Assembly.

These examples show how Prime Minister Abe and Foreign Minister Motegi took full advantage of the opportunity of the UN General Assembly,



Prime Minister Abe shaking hands with UN Secretary-General Guterres (June 28, Tokyo:  
Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

where important leaders gathered from around the world, to demonstrate Japan’s leadership when it comes to resolving the various challenges confronting the international community. In addition, they also vigorously engaged in bilateral talks with leaders from different countries in aiming to strengthen bilateral relations, and assertively conveyed Japan’s policies and positions to the international community.

UN Secretary-General Guterres visited Japan twice this year, in June and August. During his visit in June, his third visit to Japan since becoming Secretary-General in January 2017, he attended the G20 Osaka Summit. During his meeting with Prime Minister Abe on the fringes of the Summit, the Prime Minister indicated his intention to continue taking concrete steps toward solving global problems, including achieving the SDGs, for which Secretary-General Guterres expressed his support, and emphasizing the importance of initiatives to address climate change. Prime Minister Abe indicated that Japan would make every effort possible to support the Secretary-General’s initiatives on UN reform and peacebuilding, to which Secretary-General Guterres expressed his gratitude. The leaders exchanged views on regional situations such as North Korea and shared the view on the need to ease tensions over the Iran situation.

Secretary-General Guterres visited Japan again

<sup>33</sup> The cities selected propose exemplary initiatives toward achieving the SDGs through local governments

in August for TICAD7 and held talks with Prime Minister Abe. Prime Minister Abe indicated that he would support Africa's initiatives to achieve peace and stability, a major theme of TICAD7, and expressed his intention to provide all possible support for Secretary-General Guterres' initiatives, which center on sustaining peace. The two affirmed their intention to continue making efforts in these areas. Secretary-General Guterres highly commended Japan's support efforts for Africa.

At the end of July, the President of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly Muhammad-Bande visited Japan prior to assuming presidency in September. Along with a courtesy call to Prime Minister Abe, President-elect Muhammad-Bande exchanged views with Foreign Minister Kono on global issues that included the reform of the UN Security Council, the situation of North Korea, SDGs, climate change, marine plastic litter, and health.

## (2) United Nations Security Council and its Reform

### A United Nations Security Council

The UN Security Council holds the primary responsibility within the UN for maintaining international peace and security. Its activities, including Peacekeeping Operations based on UN Security Council resolutions, are diversifying, and the Council's role has been expanding year by year, encompassing the efforts to address new threats such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and terrorism.

Japan served as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the 11th time from January 2016 to the end of December 2017. It has served more frequently than any other UN Member State and has contributed proactively to discussions on topics such as country-specific situations and peacebuilding. During its 11th term on the Council, Japan made every effort to resolve North Korea's nuclear and missile issues, including contributions to drafting the six UN Security Council resolutions adopted in response to North

Korea's repeated ballistic missile launches and three nuclear tests conducted in January and September 2016 and September 2017. At the UN Security Council Briefing on Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea in December 2019, Japan was fully engaged in discussions related to maintaining international peace and security by stating that North Korea's ballistic missile launches were in violation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions and posed a serious challenge not only for Japan but also for the international community as a whole, as well as calling for the importance of the full implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

### B Reform of the UN Security Council

In the almost 75 years since the UN was established, the structure of the international community has changed significantly while the UN's functions have grown increasingly diverse. Despite this, the composition of the UN Security Council has basically remained unchanged to this day. There is broad recognition of the necessity for promptly reforming the UN Security Council in a way that reflects the reality of the international community in order to improve its legitimacy, effectiveness, representativeness, and transparency.

Japan has contributed proactively to the international community in areas such as disarmament and non-proliferation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and human security, among others. To play an even more proactive role toward the realization of world peace and security through the UN, Japan has been making efforts to convince other countries to pursue the early realization of UN Security Council reform, with the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent seats and Japan's admission as a permanent member.

### C Recent Activities Regarding UN Security Council Reform

Since 2009, in the UN General Assembly, Member States have been engaging in the Intergovernmental Negotiations on UN Security



Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 countries (Japan, India, Germany, and Brazil) on UN Security Council reform (September 25, New York, U.S.)

Council reform. At the Intergovernmental Negotiations during the 73rd session of the General Assembly (held a total of five times from January to June, 2019), the Co-chairs (UN Permanent Representatives of the United Arab Emirates and Luxembourg) worked to revise the document from the previous session based on the comments made by each country and group. The decision to pass on the existing documents, which include the document compiled at the 73rd session, to the 74th session (from September 2019 to September 2020) was adopted by consensus at the UN General Assembly in June 2019.

President of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly Tijjani Muhammad-Bande reappointed the UN Permanent Representative from the United Arab Emirates to continue serving as a Co-Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations, as a carry-over from the 72nd session, while also appointing the UN Permanent Representative from Poland to serve as a new Co-Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations.

In addition, Japan also places great importance on strengthening its initiatives as a member of the G4 (Japan, India, Germany, and Brazil), a group that cooperates on promoting UN Security Council reform. Foreign Minister Motegi attended the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 countries that was held on the margins of the UN General Assembly High-level Week in September 2019. At the meeting, to achieve progress for the current session, the ministers agreed

to improve the process of the Intergovernmental Negotiations, coordinating with UN General Assembly President Tijjani Muhammad-Bande. They also agreed that the G4 countries, given their capacity and willingness to take on responsibilities with regard to the maintenance of peace and security, will cooperate closely and continue their engagement with like-minded countries, including those in Africa, as the 75th anniversary of the UN in 2020 approaches. Japan will continue to engage proactively in the process for realizing UN Security Council reform, in close cooperation with reform-oriented countries.

### (3) Administrative and Budgetary Issues of the United Nations

#### A Budget of the United Nations

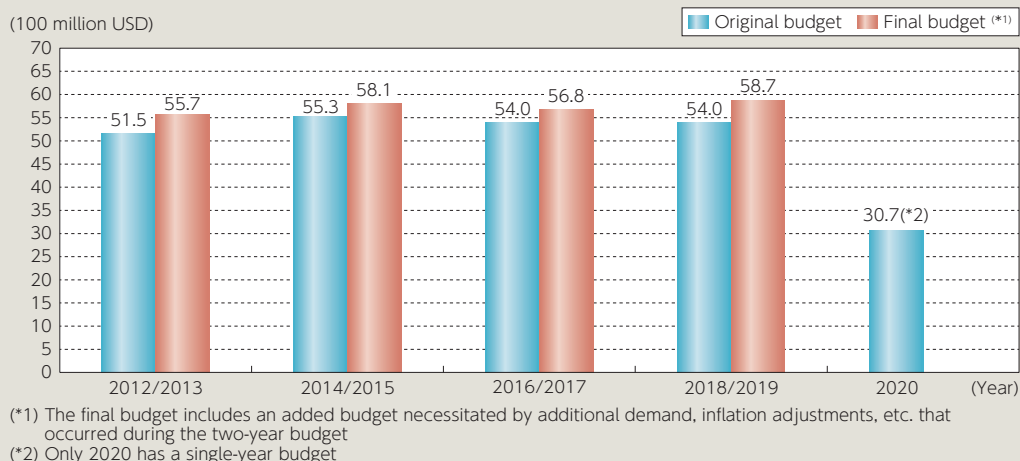
The UN budget is mainly composed of the regular budget, which is a biennial budget for the period from January to December of the next year (an annual budget from January to December of the same year will be implemented on a trial basis from 2020 to 2022), and the peacekeeping budget, which is an annual budget for the period from July to the following June.

With regard to the regular budget, a budget for 2020 amounting to approximately 3.1 billion US dollars was approved in December 2019 at the UN General Assembly. The budget for peacekeeping operations for the period of 2019-2020 amounting to approximately 6.52 billion US dollars in total was approved in July 2019 (a decrease of approximately 8% from the final budget of the previous period).

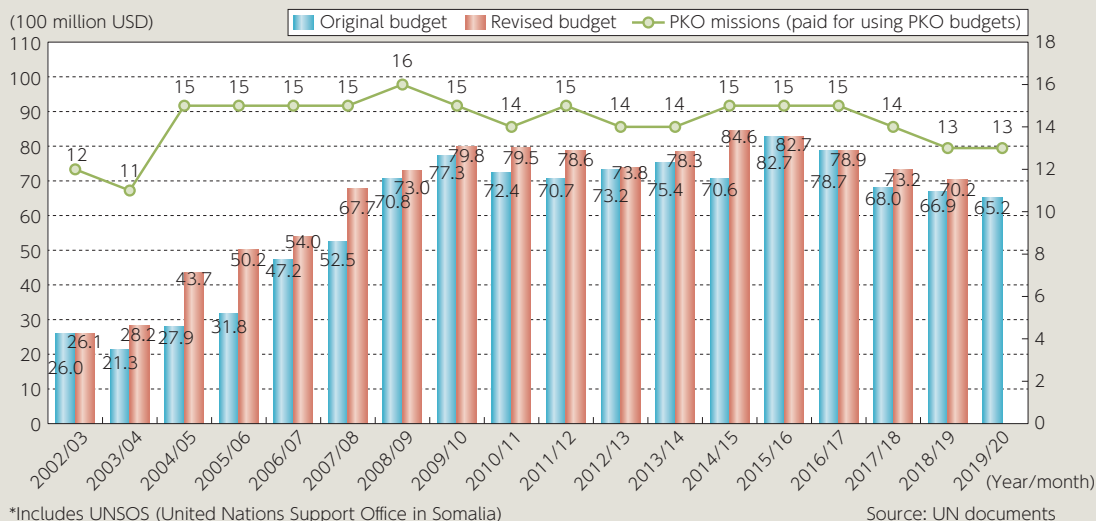
#### B Japan's Contribution

The UN budget, which supports the activities of the organization, is composed of assessed contributions duly paid by Member States and voluntary contributions paid in accordance with Member States' policy needs. With regard to the assessed contributions, Japan contributed approximately 238.8 million US dollars to the UN regular budget for 2019, ranking third after the U.S. and

## Two-year regular UN budgets



## PKO budgets and missions paid for with PKO budgets (2003-2020)



## UN regular budget allocation percentages from major nations

Ranking*	Country	2016 - 2018	2019 - 2021	Change
1	U.S.	22.000%	22.000%	±0
2	China	7.921%	12.005%	+4.084
3	Japan	9.680%	8.564%	-1.116
4	Germany	6.389%	6.090%	-0.299
5	UK	4.463%	4.567%	+0.104
6	France	4.859%	4.427%	-0.432
7	Italy	3.748%	3.307%	-0.441
8	Brazil	3.823%	2.948%	-0.875
9	Canada	2.921%	2.734%	-0.187
10	Russia	3.088%	2.405%	-0.683

\*Ranking from 2019 to 2021

## UN regular budget allocation percentages

Ranking*	Country	2018	2019	2020 - 21
1	U.S.	28.4344%	27.8912%	27.8908%
2	China	10.2377%	15.2197%	15.2195%
3	Japan	9.6800%	8.5640%	
4	Germany	6.3890%	6.0900%	
5	UK	5.7863%	5.7900%	5.7899%
6	France	6.2801%	5.6125%	5.6124%
7	Italy	3.7480%	3.3070%	
8	Russia	3.9912%	3.0490%	3.0490%
9	Canada	2.9210%	2.7340%	
10	South Korea	2.0390%	2.2670%	

\*Ranking from 2019 to 2021

Source: UN documents

China. Its contribution to peacekeeping operations for 2019 was approximately 814.3 million US dollars, again ranking third after the U.S. and China. As a major financial contributor, Japan has been encouraging the UN to make more efficient and effective use of its resources.

UN Secretary-General Guterres places priority on the management reform of the UN, along with addressing issues related to peace and development, and is engaged in efforts to further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the functions of the Secretariat. Japan, while supporting the objectives of the reform, is urging the UN to advance its reform without additional financial burdens to Member States in light of their difficult financial circumstances. Based on the General Assembly resolution adopted at the end of December 2017 on the policies for management reform, a new organizational structure was launched in January 2019. It is expected that, under the new structure, the financial, budgetary, and human resource management of the UN will be made more efficient.

## 6 The Rule of Law in the International Community

The rule of law is the concept that recognizes the superiority of the law over all forms of power; it is the basis of the international order that consists of friendly and equitable relations between states, as well as an essential cornerstone of a

fair and just society within a country. The rule of law is also an important factor in ensuring peaceful settlement of disputes between states and in promoting “good governance” in each state. Based on this view, Japan promotes bilateral and multilateral rule-making and the proper implementation of these rules in various fields that include security, economic and social affairs, and criminal justice. Furthermore, in order to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes and the preservation of international legal order, Japan actively cooperates with international judicial organizations such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), and the International Criminal Court (ICC) to strengthen their functions via both human and financial resource contributions. In addition, Japan has been working to enhance the rule of law in the international community, including Asian countries, through provision of legal technical assistance, participation in international conferences, exchanges of views with various countries, and hosting events on international law.

### (1) Japan's Diplomacy to Strengthen the Rule of Law

Strengthening the rule of law is one of the pillars of Japan's foreign policy. Japan opposes unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion, and strives to maintain its

territorial integrity, secure its maritime and economic interests, and protect its citizens. Examples of Japan's efforts in this regard include the consistent affirmation of, and initiatives to promote, the preservation and enhancement of a free and open international order based on the rule of law at various fora, including international conferences such as the UN General Assembly and meetings with relevant states. With a view to promoting the rule of law in the international community, Japan has been contributing to the peaceful settlement of inter-state disputes based on international law, the formation and development of a new international legal order, and the development of legal systems and human resources in various countries.

#### **A Peaceful Settlement of Disputes**

In order to encourage peaceful settlement of disputes via international judicial institutions while striving to comply faithfully with international law, Japan accepts<sup>34</sup> the compulsory jurisdiction of the ICJ, the principal judicial organ of the UN, and constructively contributes to establishing the rule of law in the international community via cooperation in providing human and financial resources to numerous international courts. For example, Japan is the largest financial contributor to the ICC and the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). In terms of human resources, there have been a number of Japanese judges serving on international judicial bodies, including Judge Yanai Shunji to ITLOS (incumbent since 2005, President of ITLOS from October 2011 to September 2014) and Judge Akane Tomoko to the ICC (incumbent since March 2018). With regard to the ICJ, following the retirement of Judge Owada Hisashi (who served from February 2003 until June 2018, including a term as President of the ICJ from March 2009 until June 2012), Japanese candidate Iwasawa Yuji, Professor of the University of Tokyo, was elected at the ICJ judge

by-election in June 2018. Professor Iwasawa is ICJ's fourth-ever Japanese judge (see the Column on page 223). Through these contributions, Japan strives to enhance the effectiveness and universality of international courts and tribunals. To further strengthen the capability of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in dealing with international litigations, efforts are ongoing to enhance expertise on international judicial proceedings as well as to build up strengthened networks with lawyers in and outside Japan, especially by the International Judicial Proceedings Division established in the International Legal Affairs Bureau in 2015.

#### **B International Rule-making**

International rule-making to respond to issues the global community faces is one of the important efforts toward strengthening the rule of law. Along with actively promoting the conclusion of bilateral and multilateral treaties aimed at building a legal foundation for achieving goals it shares with other countries, Japan is demonstrating initiative starting at the planning phase in creating rules for developing international laws that reflect its ideals and positions in cross-sectoral efforts in the framework of the UN and other fora. Specifically, Japan has been actively involved in the rule-making processes within various international frameworks that include codification work in the field of public international law at the International Law Commission (ILC) and the sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly, as well as the preparation of conventions and model laws in the field of private international law at fora such as the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT). In the ILC, Dr. Murase Shinya, Professor Emeritus of Sophia University, serves as a Special Rapporteur on the topic of

<sup>34</sup> A declaration that States Parties to the Statute of the ICJ recognize the jurisdiction of the ICJ as compulsory ipso facto and without special agreement, in relation to any other state accepting the same obligation, in accordance with Article 36, paragraph 2 of its Statute. Only 74 countries, including Japan, have made such declaration to date.



## Column

## Serving as a Judge at the International Court of Justice

Iwasawa Yuji

I have been serving as a judge at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) since June 2018. The ICJ is an international court for settlement of inter-state disputes located in The Hague, Netherlands. It is the “principal judicial organ” of the United Nations. It contributes not only to settling international disputes but also to the clarification and development of international law through its interpretation and application, and thus can be described as the most authoritative international court in the international community. Many important concepts and legal principles of international law have been pronounced by the ICJ and accepted by states. An

example is the concept of “obligations *erga omnes*,” namely, obligations owed by states to the international community as a whole. The ICJ is composed of 15 judges of different nationalities, elected by the UN General Assembly and Security Council. I am the fourth Japanese judge at the ICJ, following my predecessors Dr. Tanaka Kotaro (former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court), Dr. Oda Shigeru (former Professor of Tohoku University), and Mr. Owada Hisashi (former Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and Permanent Representative to the UN). Actually, I am the seventh if we include Dr. Oda Yorozu (former Professor of Kyoto University), Dr. Adachi Mineichiro (former Ambassador to France), and Dr. Nagaoka Harukazu (former Ambassador to France), who served on the Permanent Court of International Justice, which preceded the ICJ.

The ICJ has many pending cases at present (17 cases as of December 2019). This is to be welcomed as proof of confidence in the Court that cases are brought to it successively. Many observers and reporters crowd into the courtroom for oral proceedings and for the delivery of judgments in cases attracting public attention. In recent years, oral proceedings and delivery of judgments have been broadcast through the Internet, and thus are watched closely by a considerable number of people around the world.

In the approximately one and a half years since my appointment as a judge, I have sat in eight cases. The ICJ finalizes judgments after numerous deliberations. While it is an honor to participate in preparing judgments in important cases, I have felt a sobering sense of responsibility at the same time. Before I was appointed as a judge, I had lectured on international law at the Faculty of Law, the University of Tokyo. My experience in research and teaching in the field of international law for more than 40 years has given me a strong grounding in fulfilling my duties as a judge. I have previously studied and conducted research abroad, including three years in the U.S., three and a half years in the UK, and one year in France. In addition, I have practical experiences in international law, serving for three years as a member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, nine years as a judge on the Asian Development Bank Administrative Tribunal (including three years as Vice-President), and eleven and a half years as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (including three and a half years as Chairperson). These experiences are also very helpful in my present work.



At the Peace Palace where the International Court of Justice is located



At the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace

Although the ICJ hears about six cases per year in recent years, the total number of staff including 15 judges is just over 100. People are often surprised that the ICJ has consistently delivered important judgments with such limited human resources.

I live within walking distance to the Court and usually walk to work. At universities where I used to work, when I had no lectures, I often conducted research at home. Similarly, at the ICJ, I frequently work from home. I am leading a very busy life, conducting research between working for the ICJ. The Hague is a nice and quiet city full of greenery. When I have time, I would like to enjoy my life in The Hague more, such as by taking walks around the area.

“Protection of the Atmosphere,” contributing to the development of international law through the deliberations in the ILC, especially those on the draft guidelines of the said topic. Japan also sends Government representatives to various meetings of the HCCH, UNCITRAL, and UNIDROIT, taking an active lead in the discussions. In addition, Dr. Kanda Hideki, Professor of Gakushuin University, contributes to the development of the work plan at UNIDROIT. Japan has also been showing its presence as a member nation of UNCITRAL since the founding of the commission.

### **C Development of Domestic Legislation and Other Matters**

Japan not only takes steps to appropriately improve its own national laws so as to comply with international law, but also actively supports the development of legal systems, especially in Asian countries, while cooperating internationally on efforts related to further developing the rule of law. For example, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japanese Society of International Law, supported by the Nippon Foundation, co-organize the Asia Cup. The Asia Cup is an international law moot court competition for students, which aims to raise awareness about the importance of the peaceful settlement of disputes, nurture future generations in the field of international law, and strengthen exchange and communication among them. The 21st Asia Cup held in 2019 recorded participation from 73 universities in 17 countries.



Final round of the 2019 Asia Cup (August 7, Tokyo)

Here, university students from 15 countries (Japan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, the ROK, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam) were selected to take part in the oral round (the main event). They competed in the written and oral proceedings in English on given fictional inter-state disputes concerning the law of the sea and the exemption of government officials from another country's criminal jurisdiction. Japan is also engaging in cooperation concerning human resources and finances with the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), the only inter-governmental organization in the Asia/Africa region that is engaged in international law.

### **(2) Initiatives in the Maritime Sector**

For Japan, as a maritime nation, maintaining and strengthening maritime order based on the rule of law is an issue of the utmost importance. In his keynote address at the 13th Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue) in May 2014, Prime Minister Abe proposed the “Three Principles of the Rule of Law at Sea”: (1) making and clarifying claims based on international law; (2) not using force or coercion in trying to drive their claims; and (3) seeking to settle disputes by peaceful means. Ever since then, Japan has consistently advocated these principles. For example, at the 14th East Asia Summit (EAS), held in November 2019, Prime Minister Abe emphasized that a free and open maritime order based on the rule of law forms the cornerstone of peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) serves as a foundation for the rule of law at sea. This convention has been ratified by 167 countries, including Japan (including some regions not officially recognized as nations by Japan), and the EU. The convention comprehensively provides for principles governing the sea, including the freedom of navigation and overflight of the high seas. It also stipulates rights and obligations under international law

on the development of marine resources, among other things. The provisions of this convention that concern areas such as territorial waters and exclusive economic zones are widely accepted as established customary international law. In addition, the recognition that activities conducted on the seas ought to be carried out according to the provisions of this convention is widely shared among the international community. As problems concerning the oceans and seas grow more complex and diverse, it will be important to preserve and strengthen the maritime order based on this convention, which serves as a comprehensive and universal legal framework.

Under the UNCLOS, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) was established in 1996 in Hamburg, Germany for the peaceful settlement of maritime disputes and the preservation and advancement of law and order at sea. The ITLOS deals with a wide range of cases, including the delimitation of maritime boundaries in recent years in particular, and the importance of the tribunal has been growing. Japan attaches importance to the role played by the ITLOS and has successively dispatched two Japanese judges to the tribunal since its establishment.

The Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) established pursuant to the UNCLOS also plays an important role in the operation of the system for defining the outer limits of the continental shelf. Since the establishment of the CLCS, Japan has continued to cooperate with the Commission in terms of both human and financial resources through means such as continuously producing members (Japan's current member of the Commission is Professor Yamazaki Toshitsugu from the University of Tokyo). Another recent development has been the continued formulation of fair rules on exploitation of deep sea-bed mineral resources that began in 2018 under the International Seabed Authority (ISA), which was established pursuant to the UNCLOS for the primary purpose of managing deep sea-bed mineral resources. Japan actively takes part in

negotiations in order to reflect its standpoint on these rules. It has also traditionally provided support for capacity building to developing countries with deep sea-bed related technologies, and has been appreciated as a leading country in the creation of rules governing the deep sea-bed.

The decision was made to convene an intergovernmental conference (IGC) to formulate a new international agreement under the UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), which was adopted by resolution 72/249 of the UN General Assembly in December 2017. Three meetings of the IGC were held by August 2019. The Government of Japan actively takes part in discussions in order to ensure that Japan's perspective is reflected in the new international agreement by putting its emphasis on striking a balance between the dual aspects of conservation and sustainable use of the BBNJ.

### (3) Initiatives in the Political and Security Fields

In order to strengthen its legal basis for diplomatic activities, Japan is actively engaged in concluding international agreements concerning political and security fields. In the field of security, Japan advanced efforts to conclude the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA), which sets out the settlement procedures and other matters on the mutual provision of supplies and services between the JSDF and foreign armed forces, the Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defence Equipment and Technology, which sets out provisions on the handling of defence equipment and technologies to be transferred, and the Agreement on the Security of Information, which serves as the basis for the sharing of classified information on security with the relevant countries. ACSAs with France and with Canada entered into force in June and July respectively, while an Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defence Equipment and Technology with Italy entered into force in April. Japan also

reached an agreement in principle with Germany in February toward concluding an Agreement on the Security of Information. In addition, the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with the EU and EU member states, which serves as the legal foundation for future cooperation in political, security and other fields, provisionally went into effect in February. Japan is also continuing negotiations toward the conclusion of a peace treaty with Russia, which is a key issue.

#### **(4) Initiatives in the Fields of the Economy and Society**

The conclusion and implementation of international agreements that bring legal discipline to cooperative relationships with other countries in the economic sphere is becoming increasingly important for promoting the liberalization of trade and investment, as well as people-to-people exchanges, and for strengthening the foundations for the overseas activities of Japanese citizens and companies. The agreements that Japan signed or concluded include tax conventions, investment treaties, and social security agreements with various countries and regions in 2019. Japan also worked on negotiations with the Asia-Pacific region and Europe for Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), actively advancing negotiations on broader regional economic partnership such as the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) among Japan, China, and the ROK, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). In addition, the Japan-EU EPA was signed in July 2018 and entered into force in February 2019. The Japan-U.S. Trade Agreement and Japan-U.S. Digital Trade Agreement were signed in October 2019 and entered into force in January 2020 following a written notification to this effect issued in December 2019.

Furthermore, with a view to protecting and enhancing the livelihoods and activities of Japanese citizens and companies, Japan is working on the proper implementation of existing international agreements as well as utilizing the

dispute settlement system of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

In social areas such as human rights, environment, fisheries, maritime affairs, aviation, labor and social security, which are closely linked to the daily lives of the people, Japan actively participates in negotiations of international agreements to ensure that Japan's positions are reflected and also concludes such agreements. In the fisheries field, for example, Japan concluded the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean in July. In the field of maritime affairs, Japan concluded the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (the Hong Kong Convention) in March.

#### **(5) Initiatives in the Field of Criminal Justice**

The ICC is the first-ever permanent international criminal court for prosecuting and sentencing, in accordance with international law, individuals who have committed the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. Since becoming a State Party to the ICC Rome Statute in October 2007, Japan has consistently supported the ICC's activities and cooperated with the Court in various ways. Fiscally, Japan is the largest contributor to the ICC, accounting for approximately 15.7% of the entire assessed contributions to the Court as of 2019. With regards to human resources, Japan has consistently produced judges since its accession to the ICC. The current judge, Ms. Akane Tomoko, former Ambassador for International Judicial Cooperation and Public Prosecutor of Supreme Public Prosecutors Office of Japan, began serving her nine-year term in March 2018. In addition, Mr. Noguchi Motoo, Ambassador for International Judicial Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Public Prosecutor at the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office, serves as an independent expert, while Mr. Kozaki Hitoshi of the Committee on Budget and Finance serves as Committee Chair. As the ICC evolves into a

full-fledged international criminal justice institution, it is imperative to secure cooperation with the ICC, establish the principle of complementarity, and to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in its judicial procedures. Japan engages in addressing these challenges through its participation in the Assembly of States Parties, including continuing to serve as Co-chair for the Study Group on Governance.

Along with these efforts, in the face of an increase of cross-border crimes in recent years, Japan is further working on ensuring the mutual submission of necessary proof with other countries. Specifically, as efforts to improve legal frameworks for promoting international cooperation in the field of criminal justice, Japan has been working on negotiations toward concluding international agreements such as the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (MLAT),<sup>35</sup> the Treaty on Extradition,<sup>36</sup> and the Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons.<sup>37</sup> Additionally, the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America on Enhancing Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Serious Crime entered into force in January. In July, Japan signed the Treaty between Japan and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

## Human Rights

### (1) Initiatives within the UN

#### UN Human Rights Council

The UN Human Rights Council was established in 2006 as a restructured version of the UN Commission on Human Rights in order to strengthen the UN's ability to address human rights issues as part of a movement toward mainstreaming human rights in the UN. The Human

Rights Council holds sessions throughout the year in Geneva (three regular sessions per year, lasting about ten weeks in total) to discuss issues and make recommendations concerning the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Japan served as a member of the Council from June 2006 to June 2011 (the first and the second terms), January 2013 to December 2015 (the third term), and from January 2017 to December 2019 (fourth term). Most recently, Japan was elected in the elections held in October 2019, and currently serves as a member of the Council from January 2020 to December 2022 (fifth term).

At the high-level segment (meeting of the main representatives of each country) of the 40th Session in February and March 2019, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Tsuji delivered a statement. In his statement, he expressed Japan's intention to continue contributing to the protection and promotion of human rights worldwide based on the concept of human security. He also emphasized the importance of the early resolution of the abductions issue. In addition, he presented efforts Japan is making to improve human rights and advance democratization in Asia, and efforts to protect and promote the rights of the socially vulnerable.

During the same session, the Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, submitted by the EU, was adopted without a vote (adopted for 12 consecutive years). This resolution refers to the urgency and importance of the abductions issue and of the immediate return of all abductees, the resolution of all issues related to Japanese nationals, in particular the return of all abductees, to be achieved at the earliest possible date. Furthermore, the decision was made to extend,

<sup>35</sup> A legal framework that allows for an efficient and prompt cooperation with legal authorities of other countries in criminal investigation and procedures.

<sup>36</sup> A legal framework having comprehensive and detailed provisions regarding the extradition of criminals to enable more effective cooperation for repressing crime.

<sup>37</sup> A legal framework aiming to facilitate the social rehabilitation of foreign prisoners by giving them the opportunity to serve their sentences in their own countries.

for a period of two-years, the steps taken to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which was decided by the UN Human Rights Council resolution in March 2017.

At the 42nd Session in September, Japan submitted a resolution on the human rights situation in Cambodia, as the main sponsor of the resolution, and this resolution was adopted without a vote. This resolution reflects the concerns of the international community on the recent human rights situation in Cambodia and decided a two-year extension of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for the human rights situation in Cambodia.

### **B The Third Committee of the UN General Assembly**

The Third Committee of the UN General Assembly is, along with the Human Rights Council, the UN's main forum focused on human rights. Generally, in October and November, the Committee discusses a wide range of issues, including those concerning social development, women, children, racial discrimination, refugees, crime prevention, and criminal justice, as well as the human rights situations in North Korea, Syria, and Iran, among others. Resolutions adopted by the Third Committee are then adopted by a plenary session of the general assembly, contributing to the development of international norms.

At the 74th session of the General Assembly, the Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), submitted by the EU and co-sponsored by Japan, was adopted without a vote at a session of the Third Committee in November and a plenary session of the UN General Assembly in December. The resolution refers to the urgency and importance of the abductions issue and of the immediate return of all abductees, the long years of suffering experienced by abductees and their families, the resolution of all issues related to the return of Japanese abductees at the earliest

possible date, and to provide accurate information to the families of the victims on the fates and whereabouts of their missing relatives.

In addition, Japan also actively participated in discussions on the human rights situations in individual countries such as Syria, Iran, and Myanmar, as well as discussions on various human rights issues that include social development and the rights of the child. Japan participated actively in discussions in the international community toward protecting and promoting human rights, in cooperation with civil society, such as by dispatching a female representative of a Japanese NGO to serve as the Alternate Representative of Japan at the Third Committee of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly, as it has done previously.

### **C Ending Violence Against Children**

Since 2018, Japan has participated in the Partnership to End Violence Against Children (GPeVAC). Japan has been actively involved in Partnership activities as a “pathfinding country,” engaging in ending violence against children. As part of this effort, Japan cooperates with civil society and private companies to formulate a country-specific action plan aimed at ending violence against children. From August to October, Japan conducted the “Children’s Public Comment” online to facilitate the incorporation of children’s views into the action plan. Japan will continue promoting efforts to end violence against children at home and abroad, in collaboration with the international community.

### **D National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights**

Japan is committed to the implementation of the “Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the UN ‘Protect, Respect and Remedy’ Framework (UNGPs)” that was endorsed at the 17th session of the UN Human Rights Council in June 2011. As part of our commitment, Japan is working toward formulating a NAP pertaining to respect for human rights in



the context of business, which is becoming a new global standard for business conduct.

After conducting a baseline study in 2018 to capture the landscape of the existing legislation and policies regarding the protection of human rights in the course of business activities, in the process of the NAP formulation, Japan established a Working Group, with a view to bringing together relevant parties including those from relevant ministries and agencies, the business sector, a trade union, a bar association and academia, etc., to exchange views. Japan also established an Advisory Committee and held numerous discussions, for the purpose of obtaining views from experts on matters discussed at the Working Group, upon request from relevant ministries and agencies. In addition, Japan provided opportunities to exchange views among not only national experts but also overseas experts, including members of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights.

Through formulating the NAP and thereby promoting responsible business activities, Japan aims to contribute to promoting and protecting human rights for society as a whole, including the international community, to enhance the trust in and reputation of Japanese companies, and help achieve and improve international competitiveness and sustainability for these companies. Japan will continue to drive the process of formulating the NAP while taking into account the views of various stakeholders.

## (2) Initiatives Concerning International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law

### **A** International Human Rights Law

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee is a subsidiary body of the UN Human Rights Council and consists of 18 independent experts. The function of the Advisory Committee is to provide expertise to the Human Rights Council, focusing mainly on studies and research-based advice. At a Human Rights Council Advisory

Committee member election conducted during the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council held in September, Ms. Nakai Itsuko, the candidate from Japan and a professor at Konan University's Faculty of Law, was elected. Japan has continued to send members to the committee since 2008, when the committee began its activities, to the present: Professor Nakai is the third committee member from Japan.

Furthermore, with respect to the human rights treaties that Japan has concluded, Japan has faithfully responded to periodic reviews of government reports on the implementation status of the treaties in Japan, pursuant to the rules set forth in those treaties. In January, a government report concerning the Convention on the Rights of the Child was reviewed in Geneva.

### **B** International Humanitarian Law

Japan has been actively engaged in strengthening implementation of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), including through participating in the intergovernmental process on IHL in Geneva, the final meeting for which was held in March. In October, Japan co-organized a meeting of the National IHL Committee with the Japanese Red Cross Society. At the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent held in December, Japan submitted a joint pledge with other countries toward raising awareness for and promoting the usage of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission (IHFCC). Japan also made its own statement concerning the importance of further disseminating IHL and strengthening its implementation, as the emergence of new technologies such as cyber warfare and lethal autonomous weapons systems is dramatically reshaping conflicts. Furthermore, as it does every year, Japan dispatched instructors to the IHL Moot Court Competition, an event organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as part of awareness-raising efforts for IHL.

### (3) Initiatives Undertaken via Bilateral Dialogue

In addition to initiatives within the UN and other multilateral frameworks, Japan recognizes the importance of bilateral dialogues in order to protect and promote human rights. The 13th Japan-Iran Human Rights Dialogue was held in Tehran in January, the 6th Japan-Myanmar Human Rights Dialogue in Tokyo in March, and the 10th Japan-Cambodia Human Rights Dialogue in Phnom Penh in August. While sharing information on their respective initiatives in the field of human rights, the parties to these dialogues exchanged opinions concerning cooperation in multilateral fora such as the UN.

### (4) Contribution to Refugee Issues

From the perspective of international contribution and humanitarian aid, Japan started accepting refugees from Myanmar who were temporarily residing in Thailand, under a resettlement program that ran from FY2010 to FY2014 (the transfer of refugees from an asylum country to a third country that agrees to accept them for long-term settlement).

In addition to accepting refugees from Myanmar who had been residing temporarily in Malaysia since FY2015, the Government of Japan allowed accepting eligible family members of those who already resettled in Japan on the condition that mutual aid be provided with those remaining in Thailand. From FY2010 to FY2019, a total of 194 people from 50 families have come to Japan under this program.

While local governments in the Tokyo metropolitan region have traditionally played a central role in operations concerning the resettlement destinations for refugees upon their arrival in Japan, proactive efforts are being made to resettle refugees in municipalities outside of the Tokyo metropolitan area, aimed at promoting a better nationwide understanding of the refugee issue. In 2018, resettlement commenced in Kure City in Hiroshima Prefecture, Fujisawa City in Kanagawa

Prefecture, and in Kobe City in Hyogo Prefecture in 2019.

The international situation surrounding refugees is undergoing dramatic change. In light of this movement among the international community and to better balance the burden for the refugee problem among the international community, Japan made the decision in June to accept more refugees resettling from third countries under part of a new framework. Specifically, beginning in FY2020, Japan will now accept up to 60 refugees temporarily residing in Asia once or twice a year without restriction on their birthplace or region of residence, and any of the family members of the refugees who have already been accepted in Japan under a resettlement program.

The acceptance of resettled refugees has been done primarily by Western countries. Japan is the first country in Asia to accept resettled refugees, and this decision to accept more refugees has drawn attention from the international community as a committed effort by Japan to tackle the refugee problem.

## 8 Women

### (1) G7 Biarritz Summit

At the G7 Biarritz Summit in August, chaired by France, gender equality was discussed under the theme of “Fight Against Inequalities,” and “the Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment” was adopted. During the Africa session, leaders discussed the promotion of female entrepreneurship in Africa and “Promoting Women’s Entrepreneurship in Africa” was issued as an annex.

### (2) G20 Osaka Summit

At the G20 Osaka Summit held in June, women’s issues were raised as one of the major topics and a leaders’ declaration was issued. The declaration noted such matters as promoting women’s participation in the workplace and support for girls’ education including improving access to STEM

(science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), and included the importance of feedback from female business leaders, including women entrepreneurs. A Leaders' Special Event on Women's Empowerment was also held as an official side-event. There, G20 leaders and the heads of international organization reaffirmed their G20 commitments to women's empowerment.

### (3) World Assembly for Women (WAW!)

Japan has held the World Assembly for Women (WAW!) since 2014 to communicate, both at home and abroad, Japan's initiatives for promoting women's empowerment, and to provide an opportunity for discussions regarding various matters concerning women by top leaders from Japan and abroad who are active in pioneering politics, economy, and social fields. The 5th WAW! was held in March 2019 side by side with the W20, one of the G20 engagement groups (groups composed of stakeholders from the international community that are independent of governments).

The theme of the 5th WAW! was "WAW! for Diversity," and discussions were centered on women's viewpoints regarding current issues faced by modern Japanese society and the

international community, under the recognition that it is important to incorporate diverse viewpoints toward realizing a sustainable, diverse, and inclusive society that "leaves no one behind," which is stated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Discussion topics included "Leadership for Regional Development and Job Creation," "Media and Contents to Nurture Diversity," "Women's Participation in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding, and Post Conflict Recovery," "Diversity for Growth: Corporate Management and Working Environment," and "Future of Family: Getting Support, Utilizing and Sharing" (see the Special Feature on page 233).

In addition, there were discussions at the W20 entitled "Closing the Gender Gap for New Prosperity: Enhancing Governance for Women's Empowerment," "Creation of New Market Value by Women Entrepreneurs," "Gender Lens Investing: Emerging Global Trends," "Towards the Gender Equality in the Digital Era," "Women as Patients and Caregivers: Improving Gender Equity and Labor Inclusion by Addressing Healthcare Disparities," and "Closing the Gender Gaps at Work: Leading a Happy Work and Life."

The 6th WAW! was scheduled to be held on April 3 and 4, 2020, but was postponed due to the circumstances surrounding the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

### (4) International Cooperation for the Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries

In May 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced the "Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment," formulated as one of the new thematic policies under the Development Cooperation Charter, and declared that measures would be implemented to train about 5,000 female government administrative officials and to improve the learning environment for about 50,000 girls over the three years from 2016 to 2018. This was steadily implemented. At the 3rd WAW! held in December 2016, Prime Minister



Discussions held during the 5th World Assembly for Women (WAW!) (March 23, Tokyo)

Abe promised to provide support amounting to more than 3 billion US dollars for women in developing countries until 2018, with a focus on the following: (1) promoting women's and girls' rights; (2) creating an enabling environment for women and girls to reach their full potential; and (3) advancing women's leadership in politics, economy, and other public fields. These measures were also steadily implemented. At the 5th WAW!, held in March 2019, Prime Minister Abe reaffirmed his pledge, which he announced at the G7 Charlevoix Summit, to provide high-quality education and career development opportunities to at least 4 million women and girls over the three years between 2018 and 2020 as a means to expand educational opportunities for women in developing countries.

### (5) Initiatives in the UN

#### **A** United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

The 63rd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was held in March. In attendance were Representative of Japan Tanaka Yumiko (Visiting Professor at Josai International University), as well as a representative group comprising members from Japan's ministries and agencies, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and NGOs. The priority theme for discussions held at the session was "social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls." In a general debate, Representative Tanaka emphasized relevant efforts in Japan including ramping up support for childcare and caregiving, as well as efforts to combat sexual crime and sexual violence. She then introduced Japan's international contribution for better access to education and health services and more participation in economic activities for women and girls by providing safer and more comfortable public transportation. She also talked about Japan's ongoing efforts to promote universal health coverage and provide

support in the field of education, one of the priorities for the Japanese G20 Presidency.

#### **B** UN Women

Japan is stepping up cooperation with UN Women. Along with increasing its contribution of approximately 2 million US dollars in 2013 to 17.9 million US dollars in 2019, Japan provides a range of support for primarily Middle Eastern countries such as Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey that are taking in refugees from Syria and Iraq, as well as conflict-stricken countries in Africa that include Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Mali, and South Sudan. This support consists of securing dedicated facilities for women according to the needs of female victims of sexual or gender-based violence, psychological and social support, and economic empowerment support that includes vocational training. To prevent violent extremism, Japan supports efforts to build resilient communities through women's empowerment, as well as efforts to encourage women's participation in broad-based peacebuilding and in the peace and reconciliation process in Lebanon and Sri Lanka.

#### **C** Dealing with Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is used as a tactic of war which cannot be overlooked. It is vital to put an end to impunity and to support victims of violence. Japan has been actively engaging in efforts to ensure that the 21st century is a world where women do not suffer violation of human rights. Japan places importance on cooperating with international organizations that include the UN Action and Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as participating in international discussions.

In 2019, Japan provided financial support of approximately roughly 1.5 million US dollars to the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, contributing to strengthening the police and judicial capabilities of Iraq, the Democratic Republic

Special  
Feature**5th World Assembly for Women (WAW!):  
Speech by Ms. Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate**

The 5th World Assembly for Women (WAW!), organized by the Government of Japan, was held on March 23 and 24. Female foreign ministers from seven countries and 82 top leaders active in various fields from Japan, 27 countries and regions, and three international organizations took the podium. Approximately 3,000 people participated over the course of the two-day event. Based on the theme “WAW! for Diversity,” discussions were held on issues in Japan and abroad by participants with diverse backgrounds, including youths and male participants, with a view toward the realization of a sustainable, inclusive, and diverse society where no one is left behind, as established under the SDGs. The ideas and proposals presented by each participant were compiled in a summary document and registered as a UN document (No. A/73/861).

This Special Feature introduces the keynote speech presented by Ms. Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize laureate, as well as the panel discussion “Human Resource Development in a Changing Society with Technology Transformation” that she participated in.

**Keynote speech by Ms. Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize laureate**

In the keynote speech, Ms. Yousafzai spoke about her background in Pakistan, her home country where she was born and raised and where girls were not allowed to attend school, as well as why she decided to speak out at the age of 11, leading to her activities in the present day. On top of that, she pointed out that a life without education means it is shut off from the future, and deprived of its opportunity to contribute to society. She emphasized that the promotion of education for girls in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM subjects) can also contribute to technological innovation, and appealed to G20 and business leaders for further investment and support toward education for girls.



Ms. Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize laureate (March 23, Tokyo)

**Panel discussion “Human Resource Development in a Changing Society with Technology Transformation”**

At the panel discussion, the participants exchanged views on how to nurture human resources amidst the development of the IT industry, which has also been labelled as “the Fourth Industrial Revolution,” and how people can enjoy its benefits fairly without leaving anyone behind. Ms. Yousafzai pointed out that as many as one billion girls are being left out of the technological innovation, and called on governments and business leaders to provide support. Moreover, she appealed for the move toward a society where everyone can exercise their rights. She also expressed her joy at Prime Minister Abe’s commitment to provide opportunities for quality education to at least 4 million girls in developing countries by 2020, and expressed her hopes for more of such initiatives from other countries. Other panelists presented concrete examples of initiatives that are being implemented by companies, universities, and as part of national policies. For example, Bulgaria achieved the highest number of female students becoming IT engineers, through cooperation from companies in the private sector. In addition, a member of a certain university introduced the university’s activities to raise awareness among parents and guardians, with the aim of encouraging girls to further their studies in the STEM subjects under the recognition of the future need to develop human resources who have specialized knowledge in a dedicated field, as well as a broad spectrum of knowledge in other areas.



At the panel discussion (March 23, Tokyo)

of the Congo, and Central Africa. Furthermore, Japan continues to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Victims of the International Criminal Court (ICC), earmarking approximately 600,000 Euros out of a cumulative contribution of about 800,000 Euros for victims of sexual violence. Efforts are also being made to protect victims of such violence.

#### **D Women, Peace and Security (WPS)**

Japan formulated a national action plan in 2015 to implement UN Security Council resolution 1325 and other related resolutions on women, peace, and security. In March 2019, Japan launched the revised second version of the plan. In accordance with the national action plan, Japan has contributed to advancing the WPS field in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia through various financial support to international organizations, mainly UN Women and the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. Japan also compiles

an annual report as monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the plan which is published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. G7 Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Partnerships Initiative was established at the 2018 G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting in Toronto. With Sri Lanka as its partner country, Japan has supported the implementation of the WPS agenda including formulating a national action plan on the WPS of Sri Lanka beginning since 2019, as well as the economic empowerment project for female headed households, including conflict-affected widows.

#### **E Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

Since 1987, Japan has continued to provide members for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which comprises 23 independent experts. Professor Akizuki Hiroko of Asia University was elected to a member of the CEDAW at its member election held in 2018.