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SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE 2015 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY
ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (NPT)

- CLUSTER 3 SPECIFIC ISSUE: -
IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRENGTHENED REVIEW
PROCESS

GENEVA, 2 MAY 2013

Mr. Chairman,

I thank the distinguished delegate of the United Kingdom for their questions posed during the intervention. I find them quite intriguing, especially the one that relates to the venue of the meetings. Some Japanese cities, not least Hiroshima, may be interested in hosting one of those meetings. Japan is willing to engage in the discussions over the matters.

Mr. Chairman,

At the 2010 Review Conference, we had extensive discussion on strengthening the review process based on a working paper prepared under the initiative of Canada on this topic for the NPT. Japan co-sponsored this working paper along with many other countries. It was unfortunate that we did not have enough time to reach consensus on decisions at that time. Japan is willing to continue to exchange views on concrete proposals on this issue towards the 2015 Review Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

The review process could be improved in many ways and this working paper could be a good basis for our discussion. One important issue is enabling States parties to react to

serious challenges including in case of notification of withdrawal by a State party and take the necessary decisions for collective action in a timely manner.

In this regard, one option could be to replace the present PrepCom schedule with annual meetings of States Parties that would allow both procedural and substantive decisions regarding the Treaty to be taken. This would enable States Parties to promptly respond to contemporary issues of concern, thereby making the review process more sustainable and responsive.

I would also like to stress that we should seek to make use of existing resources in the most effective and efficient way. Therefore, proposals that would be cost-neutral or even cost-saving are welcome. In this regard, we welcome the PaperSmart system which is introduced from this year and hope for its improvement.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation hopes that, through the frank exchange of views at this Conference, we can identify the elements and discuss in detail specific measures to further strengthen the review process.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.