



DELEGATION OF JAPAN  
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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STATEMENT BY JAPAN  
AT THE MEETING OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE 78<sup>th</sup> SESSION

- THEMATIC DEBATE: OTHER DISARMAMENT MEASURES AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY -  
OCTOBER, 2023, NEW YORK

Mr. Chair,

We have been witnessing a growing threat in cyberspace due to an increased number of incidents involving the malicious use of ICTs, such as malware attacks, cyber operations against critical infrastructure, and cryptocurrency theft. There are no borders in cyberspace. That is why international cooperation is an absolute necessity for all of us.

In this context, Japan attaches great importance to the current Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) as an inclusive platform under the UN auspices. We commend the leadership of the Singaporean Chair and his team and welcome the consensus adoption of the second Annual Progress Report in July as well as the substantial progress we collectively achieved, such as the establishment of the global points of contact (POC).

We must promote the rule of law in cyberspace. The cyber domain is not a lawless space. International law, including the UN Charter and international humanitarian law, is applicable in cyberspace.

Given the rapidly changing nature of the ICT environment, our priority should be focused on engaging in further concrete discussions on how existing international law applies. We look forward to more concrete and substantial discussions on this important topic, including in the intersessional meetings of the OEWG.

Capacity-building is another priority area. Japan has been closely collaborating with ASEAN, the World Bank, and other international partners to enhance regional and global capacity building efforts in the field of ICT. The Global Roundtable scheduled for May 2024 will provide a great opportunity for all

Member States to exchange views on practical capacity-building measures with the wide participation of relevant stakeholders.

Regarding the regular institutional dialogue, we thank the cross-regional main sponsors for proposing a draft resolution on the Programme of Action (PoA). Japan believes that this flexible, inclusive and single-track PoA proposal can ensure a seamless transition into a new action-oriented permanent mechanism after 2025, where we can further develop the achievements of the OEWG .

We sincerely hope that this draft resolution, the outcome of our collective efforts, will be adopted with broad support from Member States.

Mr. Chair,

As the only country that has ever suffered the use of atomic bombs during war, Japan attaches primordial importance to our efforts in disarmament and non-proliferation education.

At the 10th NPT Review Conference in August last year, Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio announced the establishment of the “Youth Leader Fund for a World Without Nuclear Weapons” as part of our efforts under the “Hiroshima Action Plan” that he presented at the Conference. The primary goal of this programme is to bring future leaders from both nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States to Japan to learn first-hand the realities of nuclear weapons use. It also aims to create a global network of diverse international cohorts of future leaders and other key actors from governments, civil society, education, academia, media, industry, and other sectors.

The tragedies of Nagasaki and Hiroshima must not be repeated. Raising awareness of the experiences lived in Nagasaki and Hiroshima after the use of nuclear weapons should underpin our collective efforts towards a world without nuclear weapons. Japan considers it its duty to pass over these experiences over generations and across borders.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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