



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

**Statement delivered by Ambassador Ichiro Ogasawara,
Permanent Representative of the Delegation of Japan
to the Conference on Disarmament
Fourth Session of the Open-Ended Working Group on reducing space
threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours
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Mr. Chair,

First of all, my delegation would like to express our sincere appreciation for your effective leadership in skillfully guiding us throughout the discussions at the Open-Ended Working Group on reducing space threats through norms, rules, and principles of responsible behavior. I would like to thank also members of your team who helped us in a most efficient way throughout our activities.

Also, I'm delighted that my delegation fully aligns itself with the joint statement delivered by the Philippines on behalf of a large cross-regional group, which strongly supported our common endeavor towards norms, rules and principles of responsible behavior, as well as the work of this Working Group which should be, in our views, properly followed-up.

Mr. Chair,

Thanks to your excellent guidance, we found the forum of this Working Group to be inclusive, interactive and meaningful, as it enabled us to engage in deep discussions on substantial matters, including through panel discussions,

while it was regrettable that no consensus was reached on the substantial report and even on the procedural one. We are deeply concerned that this deviation from the established practice of OEWG activities based upon UNGA resolutions may constitute a precedent to the GGE-PAROS in November this year.

Now, Japan considers it to be of utmost importance for us not to stop here, but to continue working on further consideration on norms, rules, and principles of responsible behaviors and engaging in any related efforts to develop them, building upon the discussions at this Working Group. In this light, we look forward to the Chair's summary, which we believe will constitute a valuable contribution to future discussions and initiatives on this issue.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that Japan is ready to constructively contribute to advancing our work with all UN Member States, in order to reduce threats to space systems through the further development of norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviors, and to prevent an arms race in outer space.

I thank you, Mr. Chair, for your kind attention.

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