



**Statement delivered by Japan
at the Twelfth Conference of the States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty,
Working Group on Treaty Universalisation (WGTU)
18 March 2026, Geneva, Switzerland**

Co-chairs,

Japan commends the continued efforts of the Co-Chairs regarding the universalisation of the Treaty. We warmly welcome Republic of Vanuatu and Republic of Ecuador to the Treaty. We once again call upon the signatory and non-States Parties present at today's meeting to join the Treaty at the earliest opportunity.

Co-chairs,

Japan reaffirms the importance of WGTU Workplan for ATT Universalisation Efforts, adopted at CSP 10 two years ago, which identifies the Asia-Pacific region as a target area for the period from CSP 11 to CSP 13. Japan continues to seize every opportunity to promote universalisation in this region.

To strengthen universalisation of the treaty, Japan considers it would be effective to analyse the positions of non-States Parties towards the Treaty and adopt approaches tailored to each country's circumstances, as is done under other treaties.

Furthermore, Japan believes it would be effective to continue promoting institutional and capacity-building support for treaty accession through the Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF), as well as cooperation with other support frameworks such as the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) Fund and the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR).

Thank you, Co-chairs.

(END)