

DELEGATION OF JAPAN TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

Statement by Ambassador Tomiko ICHIKAWA
Permanent Representative of the Delegation of Japan to the
Conference on Disarmament
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General Debate
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Mr. President,

At the outset, , I would like to express my delegation's sincere condolences for the passing of Mr Stefan OTT. We greatly appreciated his support over the years, in particular, during our CSP4 Presidency in 2018. Japan also thanks the Secretariat for its dedication in preparing this Conference, despite these very difficult circumstances.

Japan would like to express our sincere gratitude to you, Ambassador RUSU, and your team, for your strong commitment to the work of ATT. I assure you of the continued full support of my delegation, both nationally and as one of the vice-presidents. We also commend the efforts by States Parties and civil society in contributing to the discussions throughout the CSP10 cycle.

Mr. President,

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the ATT, Japan welcomes and supports the initiative of a Political Declaration led by the UK. This anniversary provides an important opportunity to reaffirm our political commitment to the implementation and universalization of the ATT for the next decade and beyond. Japan also supports the joint statement on Gender led by Mexico.

Japan welcomes the President's working paper on the role of interagency cooperation in the effective implementation of the ATT. We consider it a valuable resource providing proposals and recommendations to facilitate internal cooperation among relevant authorities for the effective implementation of the Treaty.

Japan has noted the constructive discussions during the CSP 10 cycle on the ensuring synergies between the agendas of the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGETI) and other working groups, based on the decision at the CSP9. Japan supports the concrete approach to strengthen national implementation by shifting the focus of discussions to more practical aspects. We welcome the new multiyear workplans and hope they will facilitate substantive discussions on those aspects from next year onward.

Regarding the issue of reviewing the revised ATT Programme of Work, Japan supports the proposal by the Management Committee (MC) to extend the trial period by an additional year. Japan considers that the two sessions of the ATT meetings held this year were efficient under the revised programme, but we also share the views of the Committee that a formal assessment would require more time due to insufficient information for a proper evaluation.

Lastly, Japan expresses deep concern at the current financial situation of the Treaty. Financial stability is necessary to maintain and strengthen the effective operation of the Treaty. Japan reiterates the importance of paying assessed contributions in a timely manner and strongly urges States Parties that are in arrears to pay as soon as possible.

I would also like to express our appreciation to Mr. Dladla for his service over the years and pledge our support to Ms. Solmirano who is to be approved as the new head of the Secretariat later this week.

Lastly, Japan remains committed to the ATT and will continue to engage in the work of ATT in a constructive manner. I thank you.