



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

Statement by ICHIKAWA Tomiko
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament
At the First Committee of the 80th Session of the General Assembly
-Thematic Debate: Other Weapons of Mass Destruction-
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Mr. Chair,

Japan remains fully committed to multilateral efforts for arms control, disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. In this regard, Japan stresses the importance of strengthening and universalizing the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC).

Mr. Chair,

Japan is deeply concerned by reports that Russia has used chemical weapons and riot control agents as a method of warfare in Ukraine.

Noting with appreciation the leadership of the OPCW Technical Secretariat and the continued engagement by the new government of Syria to resolve outstanding chemical weapons issues, Japan reaffirms its unwavering support for the Technical Secretariat's activities in Syria.

Mr. Chair,

Japan has continued to expend its utmost efforts to make progress in the destruction of Abandoned Chemical Weapons (ACW) in China by investing in human and financial resources in line with the CWC.

Japan has been accelerating the progress of the ACW destruction project. Both the number of ACW declared and the number of ACW destroyed in 2024 were about five times higher than those in 2022. Japan will implement the project in constructive coordination with China for its completion as soon as possible.

Mr. Chair,

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the entry into force of the BWC and the centenary of the 1925 Geneva Protocol, we must accelerate the strengthening of the BWC.

Japan welcomes the thorough discussions at the BWC Working Group and continues to contribute to the early establishment of the two mechanisms: one on scientific and technological developments relevant to the Convention, and the other on international cooperation and assistance under Article X. Japan calls on all States Parties to strengthen the effectiveness and to improve the implementation of the Convention.

Mr. Chair,

Japan also attaches great value to the UN Secretary-General's Mechanism as the only available tool to independently investigate any cases of biological weapon attacks.

Strengthening the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 is important for tackling the threat of WMD proliferation to non-State actors. In 2025, to promote its implementation in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan contributed 720,000 US dollars to UNODA. Japan will continue to support the implementation of the Resolution.

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