



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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At the First Committee of the 80th Session of the General Assembly

- THEMATIC DEBATE: Other Disarmament Measures and International Security -

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Mr. Chair,

At this thematic debate, I will focus on two topics: cybersecurity and disarmament and non-proliferation education.

As Japan's security environment is as severe and complex as it has ever been, cyberspace is also a critical component in Japan's National Security Strategy. Our 2022 strategy made it clear that the threat of cyberattacks is rapidly increasing. Cyberattacks have been conducted constantly to disable or destroy critical infrastructures, interfere in foreign elections, demand ransoms, and steal sensitive information. Cyberspace and cyberattacks have no borders, making international cooperation crucial.

Japan is firmly committed to ensure a free, fair, and secure cyberspace. We must promote the rule of law in cyberspace. The cyber domain is not a lawless space. International law including the UN Charter is applicable in cyberspace. From this perspective, Japan has been actively participated in the discussions on cybersecurity in the international fora including the UN. Japan welcomes the adoption of the Final Report of the UN OEWG on cybersecurity including the establishment of a post-OEWG mechanism by consensus and looks forward to the General Assembly's endorsement. Japan expects that deliberations in the Global Mechanism will be conducted and deepened based on an action-oriented and cross-cutting approach. Japan will spare no effort in cooperating with other Member States to address challenges in the cyber domain.

Mr. Chair,

We mark the 80th year since the atomic bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As the only country that has ever suffered the atomic bombings during war, Japan attaches primordial importance to its efforts in promoting understanding of the realities of the atomic bombings.

Last year, Nihon Hidankyo was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its tireless efforts to convey the testimonies of the hibakusha. As the hibakusha are advancing in their ages, we need to pass on the understanding of the realities of the atomic bombings to younger generations.

From this perspective, Japan reiterates the importance of engaging with and investing in young people. Japan remains committed to supporting the UN Disarmament Fellowship Programme and to implementing the Youth Leader Fund for a World Without Nuclear Weapons in close cooperation with the UNODA to provide invaluable learning experiences for young professionals aspiring to lead the disarmament community of tomorrow.

Mr. Chair,

Lastly, Japan wishes to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to the Republic of Korea for its continued leadership on this issue through its resolution entitled “Youth, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.” As a co-sponsor, Japan hopes that this resolution will garner even broader support among Member States.

Thank you.

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