



**Statement by Ambassador OGASAWARA Ichiro,  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,  
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament  
First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the  
2026 NPT Review Conference  
- Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process –  
9 August 2023, Vienna**

Mr. Chair,

First of all, my delegation fully aligns itself with the joint statement by the NPDI on strengthening the review cycle delivered by the Netherlands, and also the joint statement on transparency and accountability delivered by New Zealand. Now, I would like to deliver the following statement in our national capacity.

Mr. Chair

My delegation would like express our sincere appreciation for your effective leadership in guiding us during the discussions at the Working Group on further strengthening the review process, which was held from July 24<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>. It was regrettable that any consensus was not reached on recommendations of the working group, which were supposed to be submitted to this first Preparatory Committee.

However, we found the Working Group to be meaningful in the sense that we could engage in deep discussions on substantial matters in an interactive manner, and that we observed a great deal of convergence in views of States parties on many issues.

Mr. Chair,

Japan highly appreciates your working paper (NPT/CONF.2026/PC.I/WP.34) which includes various useful recommendations proposed by States Parties. We believe that this working paper is an importance resource, serving as an excellent basis for future discussions on this issue.

Mr. Chair,

In advancing discussions on how to improve transparency and accountability in the NPT review process, we would like to emphasize the following two points.

First, it is imperative for nuclear-weapon States to report using a more detailed “standard reporting form” which builds on the 2013 common reporting framework, since the national reports of the nuclear-weapon States vary in their structure and level of information. The data and information included therein should be presented in comparable terms among the nuclear-weapon States.

In adopting such a form, we hope that the “national reporting templates,” which the NPDI has been proposing will be utilized, and that dialogue and consultations between the nuclear weapon States and non-nuclear weapon States will take place to decide the contents of the “standard reporting form.” As the NPDI has been proposing, it should contain detailed information, including numerical data about the number, types and status of nuclear warhead, the number and types of delivery vehicles, and the amount of fissile material produced for

military purposes, to name a few.

Secondly, a dedicate time should be allocated in plenary sessions of the review cycle to consider the national reports of States parties, in particular the reports of the nuclear-weapon States with regard to the implementation of Article VI and commitments undertaken in the past Review Conferences. The consideration of the reports should be conducted in an interactive manner. In this connection, it is to be noted that non-nuclear weapon States demonstrate a high level of transparency in the implementation of non-proliferation obligations through reports to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), based on the IAEA safeguards agreement, while there exist no specific transparency mechanism for nuclear-weapon States to demonstrate the degree of implementation of their nuclear disarmament obligations. Therefore, in considering the national reports, the focus should be given to those of the nuclear weapon States.

Mr. Chair,

To make our efforts to strengthen the review process more widely known to the public to garner further understanding and support, disarmament and non-proliferation education and awareness-raising has a crucial role to play.

In this context, Japan considers that States Parties should recognize the vital importance of educating and empowering individuals of all generations regarding the dangers of nuclear weapons and the imperatives to reach a world

without nuclear weapons, including the risks and humanitarian consequences associated with nuclear weapons. Also, we would like to highlight the importance for States Parties to commit to take concrete measures to raise awareness of the public, in particular of younger and future generations, as well as of leaders, disarmament experts and diplomats, on all topics relating to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including through interactions with and directly sharing the experiences of the peoples and the communities affected by nuclear weapons use and testing, to know their humanitarian and environmental impact. Lastly, we believe that it is imperative for States Parties to commit to empower and enable youth to participate in formal and informal initiatives and discussions related to nuclear disarmament.

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

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