

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. TOSHIO SANO AMBASSADOR
EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN TO THE CONFERENCE ON
DISARMAMENT**

The 1401st Plenary Meeting of the Conference on Disarmament
Geneva, 13th September 2016

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to associate myself with the NPDI joint statement that will be introduced by the distinguished Australian Ambassador on the DPRK's nuclear test on September 9th. The Japan Meteorological Agency detected seismic waves originating from the DPRK, with a wave pattern which differs from those usually seen in natural earthquakes. This was followed by an announcement by the DPRK that it had "carried out a nuclear explosion test." Taking into account these circumstances comprehensively, the Government of Japan considers that the DPRK conducted its fifth nuclear test despite the repeated calls by the international community to fully comply with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs), including the recently adopted UNSCR 2270.

This nuclear test is totally unacceptable for the international community, including Japan, as it constitutes a grave threat to its security and seriously undermines the peace and security of Northeast Asia as well as the international community, when considered together with the DPRK's recent enhancement of its ballistic missile capability, including submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM).

This nuclear test as well as the series of launches of ballistic missiles, including SLBM, by the DPRK constitute a clear violation of

the relevant Security Council resolutions. In addition, it represents a grave challenge not only to the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime centered on the NPT, but also in the effort to accelerate the entry into force of the CTBT. In response to the test, the UN Security Council and the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO which met on September 9th expressed a strong condemnation and grave concern to international peace and security from this test.

This nuclear test also violates the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration as well as the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks of September 2005, and goes against the efforts to resolve various issues through dialogue. Thus, Japan lodges a serious protest against the DPRK and strongly condemns its nuclear test. Japan reiterates its strong demand for the DPRK to immediately and fully implement the relevant UNSCRs without taking further provocative actions.

Mr. President,

Before I conclude, since this is the last CD meeting this year, I would like to commend you and all the P6 Members for their hard work as president of the CD. Japan expects that all the CD members carry out their responsibility to exhibit a concrete outcome and agree on a Program of Work (POW) at an early stage of 2017, taking into account this year's discussions regarding the several proposals on POWs.

I thank you, Mr. President.