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**STATEMENT BY NOBUSHIGE TAKAMIZAWA
AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT
AT THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE 73RD SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

THEMATIC DEBATE CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

OCTOBER 2018 NEW YORK

DISARMAMENT THAT SAVES LIVES

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to begin with our support to the UNSG's Disarmament Agenda, in particular, *disarmament that saves lives*, by reducing and mitigating the impact of conventional weapons.

ARMS TRADE TREATY

Mr. Chairman,

During Japan's Presidency for the ATT CSP4, stakeholders deepened substantial discussion on effective treaty implementation, transparency and reporting, and treaty universalization. A thematic discussion shed light on diversion. Japan echoes States Parties of the Treaty in calling for more engagement with industry as they play a significant role in preventing diversion.

In maintaining momentum in the CSP4 process, Japan, as Co-Chair of the Working Group on Treaty Universalization and a member of the Voluntary Trust Fund Selection Committee, continues to work towards realizing 100 States Parties and beyond. We will

engage with regions not yet States Parties, including the Asia-Pacific, with the help of States as well as civil society organizations. I welcome the newest member, Guinea-Bissau, as the 99th State Party, and look forward to welcoming those states that have shared their domestic developments of the Treaty. It is worth mentioning that the ATT's recently renewed website is more accessible and user-friendly for new members.

As co-sponsor of the ATT resolution led by Latvia, I call on all states that have not done so to support the resolution.

UNPOA

Mr. Chairman,

The widespread availability of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition is a key enabler of armed violence and conflict.

In this regard, Japan welcomes the adoption of the outcome document of the Third Review Conference of the UNPOA, and ready to work with States for 2020 BMS to consider and address key challenges and opportunities relating to the implementation of the POA and ITI at the national, regional and global levels.

To facilitate putting words into action, I call for all member states to support a resolution "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects" submitted by South Africa, Colombia, and Japan, so that it will be adopted again by consensus.

Anti-Personal Mine Ban Convention

Mr. Chairman,

Last year marked the 20th anniversary of the adoption and signature of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. Significant work still remains to be done in order to achieve our important goal of realizing a mine-free world by 2025.

Japan calls for international support for mine action from humanitarian, development,

and human security perspectives. In order to carry out various projects in clearance, victim assistance, risk reduction education and so on, Japan provided more than 32 million US dollars during Japanese Fiscal year 2017.

Japan welcomes the Presidency of Afghanistan as we gather again next month in Geneva for 17MSP, which will be the last opportunity to assess progress in achieving the aims of the Maputo Action Plan in advance of the Convention's Fourth Review Conference in November 2019 in Oslo.

Cluster Munitions

Mr. Chairman,

Japan takes the humanitarian consequences of cluster munitions seriously and engages in clearance of unexploded ordnance and support for affected people. Since 1998, we have reached out to forty states in diverse regions and spent nearly 757 million US dollars for mine action and UXO related projects.

In this context, we appreciate the discussion during last month's CCM 8MSP. Participants reviewed the progress and challenges concerning clearance of contaminated areas, destruction of stockpiles, and risk reduction education. Japan actively took part in the discussion on Treaty universalization, a framework for cooperation and assistance to ensure adequate assistance to survivors and their communities, transparency, national implementation measures, and implementation assistance.

Japan welcomes new members, Sri Lanka and Namibia, and in particular Sri Lanka's Presidency for 9MSP to be held next year.

LAWS

Mr. Chairman,

Much has been discussed about LAWS in the framework of the CCW. Japan believes that a technical approach where humans engage in designing, and a human approach

where humans directly engage in operation both have pros and cons, and we need to find the best combination of the two in further discussions.

In this regard, we look forward to our discussion in the CCW Annual Conferences next month in Geneva.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.