

**Statement by Ambassador ICHIKAWA Tomiko Permanent Representative
of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament**

**Informal Exchanges on Artificial Intelligence in the Military Domain and
its Implications for International Peace and Security**

Session 1: Opening Remarks and Scene Setting

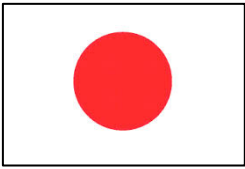
15th June 2026, Geneva

Japan would like to express its respect to the Netherlands and the Republic of Korea for leading the efforts on the AI in the military domain at the United Nations. We also thank UNODA for its support to convening this informal exchange.

Mme. Chair,

Rapid advances in science and technology, including AI, are fundamentally changing the paradigm of security. Countries are striving to develop cutting-edge technologies that could dramatically alter the character of warfare and thus prove to be “game changers”. It has become extremely difficult in practice to distinguish between technologies for civilian use and those for security purposes.

To keep pace with the rapid development and advancement of technologies, a flexible, balanced, and realistic approach is necessary for the governance of AI in the military domain. In this regard, Japan welcomes the timely convening of this informal exchange. It provides a valuable opportunity to further advance inclusive discussions among all relevant stakeholders, including industry.



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
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In the AI application in the military domain, it is necessary to consider whether the AI application is effective in overcoming the challenges identified by humans, while keeping in mind the functions and limitations of AI.

In Japan, for example, the Ministry of Defense Basic Policy on Promoting the Utilization of AI was published by the Ministry of Defense in July 2024. This Basic Policy indicates it is necessary to keep in mind that AI is to be applied to support human decision-making, and that human involvement is essential when applying AI.

Furthermore, to harness AI in a manner that contributes to international peace and security, it is crucial to foster a common international understanding on the capabilities and limitations of AI. I would also like to stress the importance of providing capacity-building assistance and sharing good practices in this area.

Japan will make use of various opportunities to exchange views with other countries in this regard.

Mme. Chair,

Japan will continue to actively and constructively participate in international discussions with the aim of achieving a common understanding on AI application in the military domain within the international community. Such discussions need to be balanced, taking into account both humanitarian considerations and security perspectives.

Thank you.

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