



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

Statement by ICHIKAWA Tomiko
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament
At the First Committee of the 80th Session of the General Assembly
- THEMATIC DEBATE: OUTER SPACE -
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Mr. Chair,

There is a new urgency for effective measures to ensure security, stability, safety, and sustainability of activities in outer space for current and future generations.

This year, the open-ended working group on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects began its deliberations in Geneva. Japan reiterates the importance of inclusive, holistic and comprehensive dialogues with multistakeholder engagement. Particularly, Japan strongly supports the continuation of discussions on reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behavior. Japan considers this approach a practical way forward in advancing the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS) in a concrete and practical manner, which enables us to avoid misperception, mistrust and miscommunication among actors in space. Japan, as one of the leading spacefaring nations, remains firmly committed to the objective of PAROS and actively contribute to discussions aimed at promoting the development of international norms and rules for the use of outer space.

Mr. Chair,

With a view to making progress in our consideration of the issues related to outer space, Japan underscores the importance of the Outer Space Treaty once again as the cornerstone of the international legal framework for this critical domain. It is vital to reaffirm compliance with existing legal obligations, deepen understanding of the current state in outer space, and take a concrete and pragmatic step from there. We believe that reducing serious risks and threats posed by destabilizing space activities through norms, rules and principles is the starting point for establishing an effective normative and legal framework that truly serves the objective of PAROS.

Mr. Chair,

Japan also underlines the importance of the Conference on Disarmament, the sole multilateral forum for negotiation on disarmament. We hope to generate synergy among various multilateral fora to facilitate dialogues among states and with other relevant stakeholders to foster common understandings and collective actions. This will enable our future generations to benefit from innovation, international collaboration and remarkable technological achievements.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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