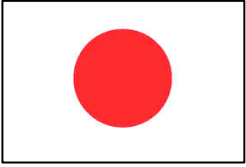


Statement by Ambassador ICHIKAWA Tomiko
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament
Conference on Disarmament Plenary, 8 February 2024

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving me the floor and circulating the non-paper on the draft decision on the work in 2024. We greatly appreciate your leadership in guiding us through the consultations on this decision.

Japan strongly supports establishing the Subsidiary Bodies to have in-depth discussions on the agenda items of the Conference on Disarmament. To this end, Japan hopes that the Conference will adopt a program of work or a decision on the work as early as possible, so that the CD will be able to advance substantive work as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum. Without prejudice to any future decisions, we also hope that such a decision will allow Subsidiary Bodies to continue to work in subsequent years so that their substantive work can be effectively followed up going forward.

We believe that it is important to build upon the previous work of the CD in considering the program of work. We need to prioritize its substantive work according to the degree of maturity of each subject. From this perspective, Japan stresses the importance of the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. We hope that this priority will be reflected in the decision on the work. In this context, we welcome the reference to the FMCT in the timetable for Subsidiary Body 2. We strongly hope that this reference will be retained.



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Japan will also remain committed to constructively engaging in substantive discussions on other issues within the Subsidiary Bodies, including radiological weapons, considering the adoption of the resolution titled “Radiological weapons” at the UN General Assembly in December last year.

Thank you, Mr. President.

(END)