

DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

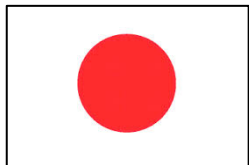
**Statement delivered by Ambassador ICHIKAWA Tomiko,
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament
at the Preparatory Committee of the Seventh Review Conference of the
Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
7 September 2026, Geneva, Switzerland**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

I would like to start by expressing my sincere appreciation to you, Mr. Chair, and the Secretariat, for your dedicated efforts in preparing for the Preparatory Committee and the Review Conference.

The CCW Review Conference will provide a valuable opportunity to share the good practices of High Contracting Parties over the past five years and to consider further steps to strengthen the implementation of the Convention. Japan attaches great importance to the CCW as a multilateral framework for addressing regulations, restrictions and prohibitions concerning certain conventional weapons. It allows us to consider these issues from a broad perspective, taking into account technological, military and security aspects. Japan will continue to contribute actively to the universalization of the CCW, as well as to the development and effective implementation of international rules through the Convention.

One of the key issues before the upcoming Review Conference is lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS). Japan attaches particular importance to developing norms that are both universal and effective.



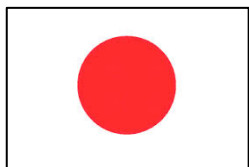
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We highly appreciate the adoption of the report at the GGE session last week reflecting the discussions over the past three years. Its adoption sends a clear message to the international community on the determination and the common understanding among States on this matter. We highly commend Ambassador In den Bosch, the Chair of LAWS GGE, for his leadership, tactful conduct of the discussions, and tenacity at the last phase, all indispensable for successfully bringing us to this remarkable outcome.

The debates on LAWS are, by their very nature, complex and wide-ranging. The intensive discussions within the GGE have contributed to foster common understanding among States. It is important to recognize that States have been able to identify many areas of convergence despite diverse national positions.

Building on this progress, it is essential that we continue our discussions within the CCW, with its 128 High Contracting Parties including major players. Through this process, we should further our common understanding of LAWS and work towards rules that can command consensus. This will help ensure the effectiveness of such rules and strengthen the universal implementation of international humanitarian law.

Japan therefore considers it essential to continue substantive discussions on LAWS under the CCW framework. We strongly hope that the upcoming Review Conference can form a common ground to enable the GGE to advance its work based on its achievement to date. Japan will spare no efforts towards formulating universal rules on LAWS and support the Chair in this endeavour.



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Implementation of the existing Protocols is equally important. Japan has long supported international efforts in mine action as one of major donors. We will continue to contribute to efforts to promote the implementation of Amended Protocol II (APII), as well as relevant international frameworks, in particular the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Japan strongly encourages all High Contracting Parties to fulfil their financial obligations under the Convention. We also attach importance to ensuring transparency in budget preparation, collection of contributions and financial reporting. We look forward to constructive discussions on the Convention's future financial provisions.

In closing, we look forward to constructive and substantive discussions at the upcoming Review Conference, and express our commitment to contributing to its successful outcome.

Thank you.

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