



**Statement by Ambassador ICHIKAWA Tomiko
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament
2026 NPT Review Conference
- Subsidiary Body I :**

**- Nuclear disarmament and Measures to avert the danger of nuclear war-
6 May 2026, New York**

Mr. Chair,

The severe international security situation and deepening divisions within the international community are making the path towards a world without nuclear weapons even more challenging. The risk of a nuclear arms race is higher than at any time since the height of the Cold War. The rapid buildup of nuclear capabilities in a non-transparent manner by a certain country could spark a nuclear arms race involving other countries.

Against this backdrop, advancing a realistic and practical approach in accordance with the principles of nuclear disarmament is more necessary than ever for the implementation of Article VI.

The Action Plan adopted at the 2010 NPT Review Conference confirms the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of the treaty's obligations. The principle of transparency underpins the other two principles, because without transparency, nuclear disarmament cannot be verified, nor would States have sufficient confidence that nuclear disarmament measures have been implemented in an irreversible manner. In this context, enhanced transparency on nuclear doctrines and arsenals is essential to advance nuclear disarmament.

We call on nuclear-weapon States to promote effective and responsible transparency measures. The current Review Conference should decide on concrete measures, including national reports by all nuclear-weapon States with comparable and numerical information and interactive discussions on these reports. I will further elaborate on this point in the Subsidiary Body III discussions.

Mr. Chair,

Following the expiration of New START, the United States proposed initiating dialogue on arms control. Japan believes that efforts on disarmament and arms control involving the United States, Russia, and China are of critical importance, and we welcome the United States' intention to reestablish an arms control framework that reflects the current challenging security environment.

Mr. Chair,

While avoiding a nuclear arms race and pursuing a realistic and practical approach to nuclear disarmament, we must continue the record of the non-use of nuclear weapons. In this context, it is also increasingly relevant to discuss ways to reduce nuclear risks. Japan welcomes the efforts by France, United Kingdom and the United States regarding transparency and risk reduction, and encourages all nuclear-weapon States to engage in constructive dialogues.

Japan also believes that effective international arrangements to assure non nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat to use nuclear weapons could serve as a step towards our ultimate goal of a world free of nuclear weapons. Japan recognizes the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States Parties to the NPT that are in compliance with their nuclear-non-proliferation obligations to receive proper security assurances.

Non-nuclear-weapon States also have an important role in risk reduction. Various cross-regional frameworks, such as the NPDI, the Stockholm Initiative, and the Reducing the Risk of Nuclear Conflict initiative - all of which Japan is a member- have submitted valuable recommendations on specific measures to be taken to reduce risks. Japan intends to continue actively contributing to these efforts through such multilateral dialogues.

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

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