

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Toshio SANO
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Japan
to the Conference on Disarmament
at the NPT Review Conference in 2015
Meeting of Main Committee I
(1 May 2015)**

Mr. Chairman,

like to stress the following points as priorities from our national perspectives.

Mr. Chairman,

First is improving transparency by nuclear-weapon States. The principle of transparency, along with the other two principles of verifiability and irreversibility, must be applied to the process of nuclear disarmament. If the number of existing nuclear weapons is unknown, negotiations regarding nuclear weapons reduction are not possible. In addition, without transparency, nuclear disarmament cannot be verified, nor would States have complete confidence that nuclear disarmament measures have been accomplished in an irreversible manner. Therefore, increased transparency alleviates mistrust among states and is indispensable as a confidence-building measure and as a basis for a stable international and regional security environment. On this point, the transparency degree of the reports submitted by the nuclear-weapon States to the third

undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of nuclear weapons agreed in 2000 Review Conference. In addition, it is essential for all nuclear-weapon States to further reduce all types of nuclear weapons, including non-strategic nuclear weapons through a unilateral and bilateral basis, and eventually engage in multilateral negotiations with all nuclear-weapon States. In this regard, Japan expects that the current process of five nuclear-weapon States, or “N5 process”, will become a basis for eventual multilateral negotiations among N5. In particular, we appreciate China’s leadership as Chair of the glossary of nuclear terminology. We call upon nuclear-weapon States to continue their work on the glossary of nuclear terminology and to submit a report on an upgraded glossary during the next review process. Furthermore, pending the start of multilateral negotiation, Japan urges all nuclear-weapon States and other states possessing nuclear warheads to commit without delay in reducing their nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

Third is an early commencement of treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices (FMCT). An FMCT is an important building block in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. We sincerely hope that the repor

Forth is the CTBT. The early entry into force of the CTBT is vital. Bearing in mind that the CTBT was opened for signature almost 20 years ago, Japan urges all countries that have not yet signed or ratified

Australia during the General Debate, and we have joined them. Japan also supports a practical and concrete approach to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, and we reaffirm the necessity to continue to employ an appropriate security policy, taking into account the increasingly severe security environment that we currently face.

Mr. Chairman,

Finally, we believe that disarmament and non-proliferation education is a valuable tool to advance nuclear disarmament and that it can also deepen our understanding of the humanitarian issue. There are various approaches to achieve our common goal, but whatever the approach, disarmament and non-proliferation education can be promoted. Japan has a sense of urgency since the average age of atomic bomb survivors is around 80. It is therefore our primary task to pass on, particularly to younger generations, the tragedy that was caused by the use of nuclear weapons, the threat of nuclear war, and the need for disarmament and non-proliferation education.