



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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Japan would like to express its appreciation for the continued efforts of Ambassador Rusu and Ambassador Yoon towards the universalization of the Treaty.

In the current global security context, the implication of illicit trafficking and diversion of conventional arms have become even more serious, making the ATT become even more relevant in ensuring transparency in the conventional arms trade. In this regard, Japan calls on all signatory and observer states to join the Treaty as soon as possible.

Japan would like to actively engage in universalization efforts. We welcome the draft working paper prepared by the Co-chairs and fully support the proposal that mid to long-term planning will enable us to be consistent in the coming years, while focusing on the accumulation of past work. Japan also supports the targeted approach to countries with potential to join the treaty and to a region in need of universalization.

In our view, the Asia-Pacific region is the most pressing region for universalization and Japan would like to continue its outreach with focus on the Asia-Pacific countries. Together with Australia, New Zealand and Control Arms,

Japan has annually co-hosted an universalization roundtable for the Asia-Pacific states in Geneva. Japan would like to explore what we can do more this year.

Although we still need to elaborate effective approaches, Japan would like to consider making the most of the existing frameworks such as the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), which is hosted by Japan annually in Tokyo to exchange views including strengthening export control and cooperation with participation of senior government officials from ASEAN countries, regional stakeholders such as China, ROK, Australia and others.

To conclude, Japan is looking forward to working closely on further universalization with other States Parties.

I thank you.