

Statement by Nobushige TAKAMIZAWA
Ambassador, Delegation of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament

At the Seventeenth Meeting of the State Parties
to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and
Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

(Agenda Item 9(c): Cooperation and Assistance)

Thank you Madam President,

First of all, I want to thank Canada, Algeria, Sweden, and Thailand for all of their hard work this year as members of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance and congratulate them on taking a step forward in the right direction. Japan believes that one of the biggest achievements this year is that the ‘individualized approach’ (IA) is effectively functioning, as shown in the presentations this afternoon and excellent side-events this week by those countries implementing individualized approach.

Madam President,

In order to achieve our ambitious goal by 2025; to ensure that there are no more mine victims, and to see that survivors participate in their communities on an equal basis to others, which is indicated in the Maputo Declaration, our mine-action efforts need to accelerate and be more effective and efficient.

From this viewpoint, it is indispensable that mine-affected states parties and those in a position to provide assistance share not only information on mine-clearance, but also other information, such as socio-economic impact, the needs of mine survivors, gender analysis, etc., in order to establish effective cooperative relations.

Madam President,

Japan believes that the individualized approach is a tailor-made mechanism that can respond to these requests and we encourage all state parties to actively utilize this mechanism. Japan will also provide support to meet the needs of affected countries.

As I mentioned in the general exchange of views, we emphasize continued support, regional and South-South cooperation, and comprehensive victim assistance in a tailor-made fashion. In 2017, Japan provided supports to 17

countries. We can see some tangible result in the report including Japan's cooperation and support. I don't repeat what Japan has done this year.

Madam President,

To conclude, Japan welcomes and fully supports the conclusion of the Committee Report, and let me highlight five points to advance the efforts in this area:

- 1) Focus on tailored needs on the ground and community listening to diverse voices, including women and children;
- 2) Pay due attention to and integrate relevant information and data and the various efforts already underway, both outside and inside the mine ban community;
- 3) Apply gained experiences and available expertise most effectively and efficiently to specific needs and phases considering the operational reality and sustainable capacity building;
- 4) Foster and encourage a sense of ownership and break silos and promote domestic and international and cross-cutting inter-organizational coordination;
- 5) Utilize online information sharing and social media to identify the most effective enablers and understand the priority among urgent needs in a transparent manner.

I thank you Madam President.