

Statement by Japan
Agenda 10: Status of assessed contributions
Delivered by Col. Jun YAMADA

Mr. President,

As one of the largest financial contributors to the Convention, Japan is seriously concerned about the non-payment of assessed contribution and the decision of the United Nations Office of Disarmament and Financial Resource Management Service not to close the account until all States Parties pay their contributions or the Convention adopts new financial measures. We are concerned that such a decision, which resulted from the accumulated arrears of non-payers, may significantly hinder the effective implementation of the Convention.

Establishing a sound financial base is crucial for the effective implementation of the Convention. Japan would like to continue to work toward a solution to this problem in cooperation with other States Parties.

Although Japan paid its assessed contribution in full this year, this does not signify acceptance of the decision by the United Nations not to close the account and therefore not to return the surplus. Japan would like to reiterate that, as a general principle, the surplus generated in the past should be returned or deducted from the invoice of the following year. Based on this understanding, it is essential to adopt measures to improve the financial situation of the Convention, and to continue our efforts to solve this problem as soon as possible.

Mr. President,

Japan would like to take note of the fact that the cost estimates for the 20th meeting of the States Parties were released only after the commencement of the 18MSP. In order to properly examine and consider official documents, particularly those with budgetary implications, Japan would like to emphasize the need for a sufficient period of time to review these documents prior to their adoption. Moreover, although Japan highlighted this matter last year at the 4th Review Conference, we note that the situation has not improved and again request that the Secretariat release this information well in advance so that the States Parties can fully examine it.

Thank you Mr. President.