



**Draft Statement delivered by Mr. Akifumi FUKUOKA
Deputy Director, Conventional Arms Division,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo
21st Meeting of the States Parties
Anti-Personal Mine Ban Convention
Geneva, 23 November 2023**

Mr. President,

Japan fulfills its reporting obligations under Article 7 every year. It also reports on the use and possession of anti-personnel land mines for training purposes under Article 3 of the Convention.

This year, we submitted our report using the online tool for the first time. We were pleased to see how the tool reduced the reporting burden, and we encourage States Parties to make active use of this tool. We emphasize the importance of all parties fulfilling their reporting obligations.

In accordance with reporting under Article 7, this will also lead to understanding on what kind of assistance is needed and will promote the appropriate mobilization of funding and assistance. It is therefore imperative, especially for mine-affected States, to fulfill their annual reporting obligations from this perspective.

Thank you, Mr. President.