



DELEGATION OF JAPAN
TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

Statement delivered by Mr. Akifumi FUKUOKA
Deputy Director, Conventional Arms Division,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo
Intersessional meeting
Anti-Personal Mine Ban Convention
Geneva, June 2025

Madame Chair,

At the outset, Japan would like to express its gratitude to Denmark, Türkiye, Cameroon, and Switzerland, for their active contributions to the Presidency of the 22nd MSP as members of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance. We also appreciate Norway for its leadership and dedication to the work as chair of the Working Group on the voluntary trust fund.

Japan remains committed to supporting mine action globally under the new action plan and will continue to work with mine affected states toward achieving a mine-free world.

In FY2024, Japan extended its assistance for mine action programs in mine clearance, victim assistance, risk reduction education and technical cooperation mainly in Africa and Asia, totaling approximately 72 million USD in 27 countries and regions through bilateral assistance and relevant international organizations. This represents an approximately 10% increase in support compared to the previous fiscal year.

“Strengthening national ownership and capacity building assistance for mine action” is one of the priority themes of Japan’s presidency. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is exploring how the Triangular Cooperation it has been advancing for many years alongside the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC) can provide a model for strengthening national

ownership in African countries. It has also been exploring what kind of capacity building assistance would be an effective approach for cooperation and assistance in mine action.

Since 2023, Japan in collaboration with CMAC has been facilitating capacity-building assistance among mine affected states by sharing their experience and expertise with African countries such as Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, and South Sudan. In February this year, a workshop was held in Zambia with the aim of discussing a roadmap for strengthening national capacity in African countries, based on Cambodia's experience.

Last week (on Monday 11 June), JICA signed a memorandum of understanding with UNMAS to strengthen cooperation in this field, further enhancing Japan's contributions in this area. At the 22MSP in December, we are aiming to submit a working paper summarizing effective approaches to national capacity support based on the progress made and discussions had so far.

Furthermore, highlighting one of the Presidency's priority themes, "the application of advanced and emerging technologies in mine action," Japan, in collaboration with relevant Japanese companies, held a side event on Tuesday. The event aimed to promote the use of emerging technologies such as AI, multi-sensors and demining robots in the field of mine action, where existing technologies and methods have been used for many years, and to demonstrate a model for reducing human and material risks and costs in the search, detection, and removal of landmines. The use of emerging technologies in mine action is supplementary to existing technologies and methods. Taking into account the views of various stakeholders and emerging technologies prioritized by other States Parties, we, as the Presidency, aim to submit a working document on this theme at the 22MSP.

Finally, Japan will host the Ukraine Mine Action Conference 2025 in Tokyo, from 22 to 23 October this year, as announced by the Prime Minister of Japan during the G7 Leaders' Summit earlier this week.

Thank you, Madame Chair