

## **Statement by the Head of Japanese Delegation at the 59th IAEA General Conference**

Mr. President,  
Mr. Director General,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, let me congratulate you, Mr. President, on your election as the President of the 59th General Conference of the IAEA. I would also like to note that the Government of Japan welcomes Turkmenistan, Antigua and Barbuda and Barbados as new members of the IAEA. The activities of the IAEA, which seek to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to ensure nuclear non-proliferation, are becoming increasingly important now as we near next year's 60th anniversary of the adoption of the IAEA Statute. Japan will continue to support the IAEA as much as we can so that it can fulfill its important mission under the leadership of the Director General, Mr. Amano.

The 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was held from April to May this year. Although the Conference did not reach consensus on a Final Document, the NPT will continue to be the cornerstone of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Japan will lead the international efforts to maintain and strengthen the NPT regime, and thus will continue to strongly support the role of the IAEA.

Mr. President,

The Government of Japan welcomes the release of the IAEA's Fukushima Report, and we would like to express our deep gratitude to all the experts, member states and international organizations who contributed to this report. The Government of Japan takes the contents of the report seriously.

On this occasion, I would like to report that steady progress is being made in the decommissioning and the contaminated water management efforts at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.

With regard to the decommissioning, fuel removal from the spent fuel pool of the Unit 4 reactor was completed last December. And for the Unit 1, 2 and 3 reactors, we are conducting surveys on fuel debris, mobilizing all the best available technologies such as robotics technology.

Significant progress has also been observed in contaminated water management. Treatment of all the contaminated water stored in the tanks has been completed in May. Removal of highly contaminated water that had remained in the trench was completed in July as well. Also, on-going efforts are being made to prevent the contamination of water and to reduce the outflow of contaminated water into the ocean, through multilayered measures such as pump-up of ground water by the sub-drain system, and the construction of impermeable walls both on the sea-side and on the land-side of the reactor buildings.

We would like to express our renewed gratitude to the international community including the IAEA, for working with us, supporting the decommissioning and contaminated water management. We will continue to disseminate information proactively, to local and international community. We also continue to further proceed with the decommissioning and contaminated water management efforts in manners that are open to the international community.

Furthermore, in April, we established the Collaborative Laboratories for Advanced Decommissioning Science (CLADS) within JAEA in order to promote research and development (R&D) of advanced technology and human resource development in the field of decommissioning. In 2017, we plan to construct the International Joint Research Facility in Fukushima prefecture. We hope that activities of CLADS, in cooperation with universities and research institutes both within and outside Japan, contribute to the international decommissioning research.

Step by step, progress is also being made in restoring the lives of the people who suffered from the effects of the Fukushima Daiichi accident. As a result of the progress made in the decontamination work and the development of life infrastructure, and after consultations with the residents, evacuation orders have been lifted in three municipalities since last April, and people are now able to return to their home towns.

Based on scientific evidence, more and more countries have relaxed import restrictions on Japanese foods. For further relaxation and lifting of import restrictions, Japan is proactively providing information overseas about the safety of Japanese foods.

At the reception hosted by the Government of Japan during lunch break today, we served Sake and snacks from Tohoku area including Fukushima, the areas that are suffering from damages caused by harmful rumors and misinformation in spite of the safety of the products, and we had the participation of so many

people. Sake and snacks we served today were inspected by scientific methods and their safety has been confirmed.

Mr. President,

After the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, Japan has made various efforts to drastically strengthen nuclear safety.

In September 2012, the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) was established as a highly independent regulatory body. In July 2013, the NRA introduced the new regulatory requirements which call for greatly enhanced protective measures. As a sign of close cooperation with the IAEA, in June, Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station of the Tokyo Electric Power Company welcomed the IAEA's OSART mission. In addition, the NRA is eagerly preparing to receive the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) in January 2016.

In cooperation with the IAEA, we will continue our efforts towards the enhancement of nuclear safety.

Mr. President,

It is the policy of the Government of Japan to restart nuclear power plants as an important base-load power source, once they satisfy the safety standards that have been enhanced in the light of the experiences and lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident. The Sendai Nuclear Power Station Unit 1 was restarted on the 10th of September, having gone through rigorous legal and regulatory procedures that spanned over 2 years under the new regulatory requirements. While taking all possible measures to ensure operational safety of nuclear power stations and obtaining the understanding of the municipalities hosting the nuclear facility, we intend to make the efforts to ensure stable supply of electricity.

In July, the Government of Japan also developed the "Long-term Energy Supply and Demand Outlook" based on the Strategic Energy Plan. In the Outlook, it is indicated that the proportion of nuclear power in the total electricity generation will be 20 to 22 percent in fiscal year 2030. From now, we will take comprehensive efforts to realize the realistic and well-balanced energy mix.

For the direction of the overall nuclear power policy, Japan Atomic Energy Commission which I chair is now working to develop the "basic guidelines". The "basic guidelines" will set the direction for our research & development and utilization of nuclear power.

Moreover, we firmly maintain the policy of not possessing reserves of plutonium without specified purposes. We also continue to manage and utilize plutonium appropriately, taking into account the balance of supply and demand.

Mr. President,

The Government of Japan recognizes the needs to further promote the efforts to enhance nuclear safety and international cooperation.

In order to share the lessons of the accident with the international community and to enhance global nuclear safety, Japan will continue to support IAEA's activities such as development of infrastructure related to nuclear power, development of human resources of the International Nuclear Management Academy (INMA), and promotion of public understanding on nuclear energy. Moreover, Japan will further develop our nuclear technology with a view to strengthening nuclear safety, and will share the merits of it with the people around the world.

Last February, Vienna Declaration on Nuclear Safety was adopted unanimously here in Vienna by the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety. The Government of Japan welcomes this declaration which includes various measures to strengthen global nuclear safety. We strongly encourage all the Contracting Parties to implement this declaration.

In addition, we welcome the entry into force of the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC) this April after Japan's conclusion of the Convention in January. We strongly hope that this will lead to the enhancement of the international nuclear liability regime.

Mr. President,

A summit conference to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be held at United Nations in New York in late September.

Nuclear science and technology is contributing to socio-economic development of the international community in a wide range of areas such as medicine, food and agriculture as well as water management. The Government of Japan strongly supports Director General Amano's initiative, "Atoms for Peace and Development". The Government of Japan actively assists IAEA's concrete efforts to enhance its role in the area of global development, such as the ReNuAL projects.

At the NPT Review Conference held this year, Japan announced its commitment to contribute a total of 25 million US dollars over the next 5 years to the IAEA's Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI). Benefits of nuclear application should

be delivered to a larger number of people, in broader areas, more safely. For this purpose, I am pleased to announce that The Government of Japan will disburse about one million two hundred thousand dollars to support regional technical cooperation projects in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asian Pacific areas. The Government of Japan will continue supporting implementation of projects in close cooperation with the IAEA and countries of the region. The Government of Japan would like to call upon the IAEA Member States to provide further support to the PUI.

In addition, Japan is leading the "Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (FNCA)" in order to promote the atomic energy cooperation in the Asian region where increasing needs for the peaceful use of atomic energy are expected. In December, Japan will host a Ministerial Level Meeting. Within the framework of the FNCA, we will contribute not only in the area of nuclear power generation, but also in the area of utilization of radiation for agriculture, industry and medical care to Asia and other countries in the world,

Mr. President,

Japan continues to make its best efforts to enhance nuclear security.

Last year, the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) in Tokai, Japan, provided training courses on nuclear security and other related topics to approximately 400 experts from Asian and other countries. Total number of such trainees since its inception in 2010 reached 1500.

Japan received the IAEA International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) mission in February this year. Japan will take appropriate measures to address the recommendations and suggestions by the mission in order to enhance nuclear security.

Japan continues to cooperate for the success of the next Nuclear Security Summit to be held from March 31 to April 1, 2016, and the second IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held in December 2016.

Japan has been supporting the IAEA's efforts to promote the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Amendment. Conclusion by fourteen additional States is required for the entry into force of the Amendment. Japan encourages the States that have not yet done so to conclude the Amendment as soon as possible in order to realize its early entry into force.

Through these activities, Japan continues to address domestic concerns about nuclear terrorism and to contribute to the enhancement of global nuclear security.

Mr. President,

The IAEA Safeguards system is the most essential measure to ensure nuclear non-proliferation and Japan has supported and continues to support the strengthening of its effectiveness and efficiency. Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and its Additional Protocols are of paramount importance for strengthening the global non-proliferation regime. Japan welcomes the fact that one new State has ratified the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and two have ratified the Additional Protocols since last year's General Conference.

The Government of Japan highly appreciates the strenuous efforts made by all negotiating parties towards the resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue. Japan welcomes the JCPOA as it will strengthen the international non-proliferation regime and lead to the stability of the Middle East region, and strongly expects that the JCPOA will be steadily implemented. Japan will provide possible support with a view to achieving a steady implementation of the Agreement.

It is also important to clarify past and present outstanding issues regarding Iran's nuclear program before the end of the year based on the Roadmap agreed between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the IAEA. The role of the IAEA is vitally important for the implementation these agreements. Therefore, it is necessary that each country make an appropriate contribution of human and financial resources in a responsible manner in order to enable the IAEA to implement necessary activities.

Japan strongly condemns North Korea's continued development of its nuclear and missile programs as these pose serious threat to the peace and security not only of East Asia but also of the entire international community. Japan urges North Korea to refrain from taking any further provocative actions, to take concrete steps toward complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization and immediately cease all related activities, to fully comply with the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks and relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, and to return to compliance with the NPT and IAEA Safeguards.

Japan, in this regard, fully supports the IAEA's continued involvement in this issue.

Japan supports the efforts to reinforce the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, including the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction. Based on the result of the

2015 Review Conference, to move forward towards the realization of this free zone, we should continue the comprehensive efforts toward confidence building in the Middle East region.

Japan will also spare no effort in this endeavor.

Japan has succeeded the position of the Chair of the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network (APSN) from Australia last September. Japan is prepared to make contributions to vitalizing the APSN through strengthening of the capability of safeguards implementation authorities and further development of network among the national authorities, in close cooperation with the IAEA and with other regions.

Mr. President,

Based on the flagship policy of “proactive contribution to peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, Japan wishes to play a more proactive role in maintaining peace, prosperity and stability of the world. The efforts which I above mentioned are part of such policy, and, Japan will continue to conduct peaceful nuclear activities while ensuring non-proliferation, nuclear safety and nuclear security.

Next year will mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the IAEA Statute. Before this important milestone, as a responsible member of the international community, Japan expresses its firm determination to further contribute to ensuring and to promoting peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Thank you, Mr. President

