

Statement by Japan on Universalization  
April, 2013 CCM Intersessional Meeting

First of all, please allow me on behalf of the Japanese Delegation to express our gratitude to Portugal and Ghana, as coordinators for the preparation of today's session on the status and activities regarding universalization of the CCM.

Mr./Ms. Coordinator,

Japan was one of the first countries to sign the CCM in December 2008. We undertook domestic legal and administrative procedures as swiftly as possible to become a State Party to the Convention in July 2009. Taking this opportunity, on behalf of the Delegation of Japan, I would like to congratulate the new States Parties joining the Convention since the 3MSP: Andorra, Australia, Chad, Liechtenstein, Nauru and Peru.

As a former coordinator on universalization and a State Party from Asia, Japan has particularly encouraged universalization of the Convention in the Asia-Pacific region. In March, at the meeting of the 9th Asian Senior-level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP) held in Tokyo, we approached non-States Parties in the region and engaged in the promotion of the Convention. Japan will continue its efforts in universalization and seize every opportunity at the multilateral, regional, and bilateral levels in encouraging all non-States Parties to join this Convention. I would also like to express our appreciation to the efforts by other States Parties, international organizations, and NGOs. We look forward to exchanging views on universalization strategies at the Universalization Group meetings.

Mr./Ms. Coordinator,

On a different note, Japan reiterates our deep concern about the reported continuous use of cluster munitions, expressed at the

67<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly in October 2012. We support the President's repeated condemnation regarding the use of cluster munitions in Syria. Knowing the deadly impact that cluster munitions have on civilians and their lasting socio-economic impact, Japan condemns their use as entirely unacceptable in any situation. We join the call urging all States not yet party to join the Convention, and in the meantime to adhere to prohibitions on all use, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions.

I thank you Mr./ Ms. Coordinator.