

States updates of Universalization  
Delegation of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament  
The Convention on Cluster Munitions Intersessional Meetings 2025, 7-8th Apr.

Mr. President,

Allow me at the outset, to congratulate you, Ambassador Carlos D. Sorreta, for assuming the Presidency of the 13th Meeting of State Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). Japan appreciates the efforts made by the President and the ISU in organizing this meeting. I assure you of the full support and cooperation of my delegation. Japan will actively participate in discussions throughout the year to make concrete progress in the implementation of the Convention.

Mr. President,

Japan attaches great importance to the universalization of the CCM. In light of the continuous reports of the use of cluster munitions in Ukraine, and the persistent damages caused by cluster munitions in Asia, the Middle East and other regions, we as States Parties must renew our commitment to the CCM. The need to universalize the Convention is greater than ever. In this regard, Japan appreciates the initiative by the Philippine to hold the CCM workshop for the Asia Pacific region in Manila in March.

As a part of our efforts, Japan, together with Australia, co-hosted a disarmament outreach dialogue with Geneva-based Pacific States last week with participation of the Philippines as the CCM president to enhance regional awareness and foster cooperation in the field of disarmament and arms control. This event focused on briefings and exchanges on the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), and the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). We believe that it was a great opportunity to discuss each disarmament convention, ways to enhance cooperation, and to understand challenges faced by the Pacific States in joining and implementing these treaties. Japan would like to continue outreach efforts towards further universalization in the future.

Mr. President,

Japan believes that universalization is key to uphold and enhance the norms of the CCM. We regret that Lithuania has been forced to make the decision to withdraw from the CCM. Japan condemns the acts of aggression by Russia against Ukraine and will continue to work closely with the States Parties to realise a ‘just and lasting peace’.

On this occasion, we once again strongly call on states not yet a party to accede to this Convention as soon as possible. Japan looks forward to fruitful discussions during the next two days and will contribute to them constructively.

I thank you, Mr. President.