

Explanation of Vote by Japan  
"Nuclear Disarmament" (A/C.1/61/L.39)

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to explain Japan's abstention in the voting on the draft resolution contained in document A/C.61/L.39, entitled "Nuclear Disarmament."

Madam Chairperson,

Japan shares the same ultimate goal with the draft resolution L.39, namely the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In this regard, my delegation takes note of positive elements concerning nuclear disarmament in this resolution. My delegation appreciates that it contains a reference to the NPT as the cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament agreed in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference.

However, this draft resolution does not contain elements which are necessary for the international community including nuclear weapon states to form an agreement towards nuclear disarmament. My delegation firmly believes that the steps towards nuclear disarmament should be realistic and progressive, with the involvement of all the nuclear-weapon states. Therefore, my delegation would prefer to see a different approach from that proposed in this resolution towards the shared goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Thank you