Statement delivered by Mr. FUKUOKA Akifumi,
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Mr. Co-Chair,

Japan would like to express its appreciation for the continued efforts of Ambassador Yoon and Ambassador Göbel towards the universalization of the Treaty.

Japan, as a member of the Asia-Pacific Group, attaches great importance to the universalization of the ATT, especially in the Asia Pacific region. From this perspective, Japan participated in the outreach workshop for the ASEAN region hosted by the ROK presidency in Jakarta in May, where we actively introduced our arms import and export control system to states that are not yet parties to help their understanding.

Furthermore, Japan, again this year, together with Australia, New Zealand and Control Arms (CA), co-hosted the universalization roundtable for Asia Pacific states on the sidelines of the last ATT meeting in May. For the first time, we focused on the Pacific and highlighted the potential risks of diversion that are relevant to the region and the support available including the Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) for building capacity to address their own challenges. It was a meaningful opportunity to help us understand the individual challenges and to reach out to capital-based delegates who participated in the ATT meeting from the region. Japan thanks all the participants that joined this event and intends to continue this initiative with our partners.

Japan welcomes the initiative in the draft proposal, entitled "Enhancing the Work of the WGTU" as a result of the ongoing discussions on enhancing the universalization process since CSP8. Japan has actively participated in the discussion, and fully supports the recommendations contained in the document. We look forward to further consultations on its actual implementation based on this proposal during the CSP10 cycle.

Lastly, Japan calls on all signatory and observer states to join the Treaty as soon as possible. I would like to reiterate that states not yet party are also eligible to apply to the Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) and can utilize it as a tool to raise domestic awareness for accession to the ATT.

Japan will continue to contribute to the universalization of the ATT.

I thank you, Co-Chair.