

## DELEGATION OF JAPAN TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

Statement delivered by Mr. FUKUOKA Akifumi, Deputy Director, Conventional Arms Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo. The Ninth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty Matters pertaining to the Secretariat, 24 August 2023, Geneva

Madame President,

Japan would like to share its appreciation for the Management Committee for their preparation of the draft proposal on the review of the ATT programme of work, and supports the revised proposal and its approach in general contained in the draft.

To be more specific, Japan supports the new proposal to hold one session of in-person working group meetings for up to four days and one in-person preparatory meetings for up to two days per cycle, and that the preparatory session takes place separately from the working group meetings.

Japan believes the proposed arrangement can streamline the process and improve overall efficiency of the programme of work as well as help to avoid repetition of discussions between each session. It would also allow each delegate more adequate preparation time in order to provide substantive responses to the CSP. Furthermore, we value a certain degree of flexibility in the timetable of each session to accommodate the agenda and priorities as well as changes in circumstances. We are also flexible to hold virtual consultations by interested members during the intersessional period as needed.

I am pleased that the statements shared by states at the CSP9 have resulted in constructive discussions and agreement among states parties on the future direction of the WGETI. On that basis, the ATT Review Paper proposed by the MC is timely. The time has now come to make a decision at this meeting for more pragmatic discussions in the ATT towards CSP10 and Japan believes it would be logical and appropriate to test the revised programme of work next year and then assess its impact in the next CSP. Japan fully support the proposal by the Management Committee and we call on all State Parities to positively consider its recommendations.

I thank you, Madame President.