Statement by Ambassador Toshiro Ozawa,

Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna Cluster 2 Specific issue – Regional issues

First Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference for the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) 8 May 2012

Mr. Chairman,

Japan wishes to emphasize the significant role of the NPT in promoting regional security. We believe that achieving our common goal of non-proliferation through effective implementation and universalization of the Treaty is critically important for maintaining and strengthening regional stability. This is why the cases of non-compliance with the Treaty or the IAEA safeguards obligations in certain regions cause serious concern for all of us.

Mr. Chairman,

The DPRK's nuclear programme poses a serious challenge to the NPT regime. Japan expresses its grave concern over the fact that the DPRK continues its nuclear and missile programmes, including uranium enrichment activities, in violation of the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and the September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. They pose serious threats to the peace and stability of the region and the entire international community.

The DPRK's missile launch on 13 April was a grave provocation which undermined the peace and stability of the region and the non-proliferation efforts of the international community. The launch was a serious violation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1874, which demands the DPRK not conduct any launch using ballistic missile technology, as well as

Resolutions 1695 and 1718. It is also against the spirit of the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. Japan deplores the launch and has lodged a strong protest against the DPRK. Japan welcomes the Presidential Statement issued by the UN Security Council on 16 April, which strongly condemns the launch.

The DPRK must immediately and fully implement the United Nations Security Council Resolutions which stipulate that: the DPRK shall abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner and immediately cease all related activities; it shall act strictly in accordance with the obligations applicable to parties under the NPT and the terms and conditions of the IAEA Safeguards Agreement; it shall provide the IAEA transparency measures extending beyond these requirements, including such access to individuals, documentation, equipment and facilities as may be required and deemed necessary by the IAEA. Japan strongly urges the DPRK to take concrete actions towards resolving its nuclear and missile issues.

Mr. Chairman,

Iran's continued failure to comply with its obligations under the United Nations Security Council Resolutions and to meet the requirements of the IAEA Board of Governors resolutions is a cause of serious concern to all of us. Japan urges Iran to take the relevant resolutions of the IAEA Board of Governors and the United Nations Security Council seriously and to take necessary measures. Japan also urges Iran to cooperate fully with the IAEA to resolve all outstanding issues, including possible military dimensions to Iran's nuclear programme. Also, Japan calls on Iran to cooperate fully and to work with the IAEA to reach an agreement on a structured approach, based on the IAEA's verification practices, to resolve all outstanding issues. Japan strongly hopes that Iran's nuclear issues will be resolved peacefully through diplomacy and encourages Iran to take constructive actions on those issues. In this regard, Japan welcomes the resumption of talks between EU3+3 and Iran, and expects that substantial progress will be made to build confidence.

Mr. Chairman,

Japan continues to urge Israel, India and Pakistan to accede to the NPT as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions. We believe that all States that have yet to accede to the NPT and posess nuclear weapons should take practical disarmament measures in support of the NPT. We note that Japan and India share the goal of achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. In this context, we continue to urge India to maintain its commitment to the moratorium on nuclear tests, and to sign and ratify the CTBT. Japan also urges India to maintain and advance a series of commitments and actions in the field of non-proliferation. On Pakistan, Japan continues to urge Pakistan to maintain the moratorium on nuclear tests, to sign and ratify the CTBT, and to continue its efforts to further strengthen its export control. Japan strongly urges Pakistan to join the other 64 CD Member States in agreeing to the immediate commencement of the negotiations on FMCT in the Conference on Disarmament. Pending the entry into force of the treaty, Japan encourages both India and Pakistan to declare a moratorium on the production of fissile material for all nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices.

Thank you.

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