

2015 APMBC Inter-Sessional Meeting(ISM)
Statement on Universalization by JAPAN

Thank you, Mr. President,

Since this is the first time to take the floor, we would like to express our appreciation to the President for your preparation for this meeting, and also thank the president for the presentation on universalization, which is very useful and informative for all of us.

Mr. President,

Let us congratulate and welcome Oman as a new state party. Currently, membership to this Convention has reached 162, and we have achieved the largest number of States Parties amongst all the Conventional Arms Disarmament related Conventions. In recent years however, the pace of universalization has slowed down, and countries with large stockpiles and/or producing anti-personnel mines still remain outside of this legal framework. Universalization remains an important task for each State Party to act upon.

Japan attaches importance to promote universalization in particular in the Asia-Pacific region, as 15 States among 36 States not party are from Asia-Pacific region, which is the highest number compared to other regions that have achieved universal acceptance as seen in Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe.

Japan has carried out universalization efforts to States not Party through bilateral disarmament dialogues, bilateral meetings, and diplomatic demarche via our overseas missions. Japan will continue to call on those States not Party to join the Convention as soon as possible.

Thank you, Mr. President.