Explanation of vote by Japan on L.22

"Accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments"

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to explain Japan's position on the draft resolution contained in the document A/C.1/59/L.22 entitled "Accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments," which Japan supported in the voting.

This draft resolution, submitted by the New Agenda Coalition (NAC), has been much improved as compared with the last year's resolution entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: a new agenda," and offers effective approaches toward nuclear disarmament.

Japan does not necessarily agree to all of the points contained in this resolution. However, Japan supports the overall objectives of the resolution with a view to engendering favorable atmosphere for nuclear disarmament in the lead-up to the 2005 NPT Review Conference, and therefore decided to support the resolution.