Statement of JAPAN

in the Open-ended working group on conventional ammunition

23-27 May 2022

Agenda item 5 (d) Existing international cooperation and assistance

Mr. Chair,

I am grateful for your swift recovery and return to the Chairmanship. As expressed on the first day of this session, Japan extends its full support to you throughout this OEWG process.

Japan has assisted different countries and sub-regions, especially those in Africa, in their efforts to achieve better stockpile management and destruction of ammunition surpluses through the projects implemented by partner agencies including UNIDIR and the Small Arms Survey. Japan appreciates the successful completion of those projects and the accountability demonstrated by our partners in effectively utilizing the resources we have provided to enhance national and regional safety and stability in the targeted areas.

Japan also entrusted, in 2019, a total amount of 2 million US dollars to the Saving Lives Entity, or SALIENT, which was, as all of us know, established based on the Secretary-General’s commitment in his Agenda for Disarmament.

Mr. Chair,

Japan would like to draw your attention to the existing funding mechanisms that the UN has dedicated specifically to entities tackling the issue of conventional arms, such as SALIENT and UNSCAR. Japan believes that the international community needs to make the best use of existing mechanisms and resources, which will help us quickly advance the cause of this OEWG. Japan hopes that we will discuss how to use these existing mechanisms and resources effectively and efficiently to close the identified gaps as early as possible.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.