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**Joint Statement on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education  
Delivered by H.E. Mr. Akio Suda  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament  
at the NPT Review Conference in 2010 Meeting of Main Committee I  
11 May 2010**

Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the 42 countries – Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Mexico, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Uruguay, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Tonga, I would like to deliver a joint statement on disarmament and non-proliferation education.

It gives me great pleasure to note that in addition to the 29 countries that participated in this joint statement last year, 13 new countries have joined us this year, which is proof of the growing recognition of the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education.

Mr. Chairman,

As delegations and NGOs gather from all over the world at this year's NPT Review Conference, the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education cannot be overemphasized. Education is imperative to promote disarmament and non-proliferation, and thus to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

Education imparts knowledge and critical thinking to individuals and people. Education can raise the awareness of the public, in particular the future generations, of the tragic consequences of the use of nuclear weapons. Education can also empower individuals and people to make their contribution, as national and world citizens, to disarmament and non-proliferation.

As one can easily tell from the biannual reports of the UN Secretary General, which compile the educational steps taken by the Member States, the UN, international and regional organizations, civil society and NGOs, a great number of educational activities have been implemented. We commend such efforts. However, we believe more can be done. We encourage all relevant players to implement to the greatest extent possible the 34 recommendations contained in the UN Secretary General's report of 2002.

Here we would like to stress the importance of and the need for further promoting cooperation between governments, the UN and other international and regional organizations, civil society and NGOs to maximize the educational benefits. We take note of the joint working paper (NPT/CONF.2010/WP.5) submitted by Japan and the United Nations University entitled "Promoting Cooperation with Civil Society toward a World without Nuclear Weapons".

We encourage the States Parties to agree in the outcome document of this Review Conference to the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education as a practical measure that supports the achievement of a world without nuclear weapons.

Thank you.