

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 28 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF AN EXCERPT FROM THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF JAPAN AT THE FORTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 27 SEPTEMBER 1994 RELATING TO THE PROPOSAL OF A CEREMONY FOR SIGNING A CTBT IN JAPAN

I have the honour to forward herewith the English translation of the statement made by H.E. Mr. Yohei Kono, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan at the forty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly on 27 September 1994, relating to the proposal of a ceremony for signing a CTBT in Japan.

I should be grateful if this letter together with the excerpt from the Foreign Minister's statement could be registered as an official document of the Conference and have it distributed to all member delegations and non-member States participating in the work of the Conference.

(Signed) Yoshitomo TANAKA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
to the Conference on Disarmament

As the only country to have suffered a nuclear attack, and adhering firmly to its three non-nuclear principles, Japan strives to achieve the ultimate goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons. Toward this end, it urges all nuclear-weapon States to redouble their efforts to reduce their nuclear arsenals. Further, Japan supports the indefinite extension of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, and calls on all States that have not yet acceded to the treaty to do so at the earliest opportunity. At the same time, I would urge, in particular, all nuclear-weapon States to engage more actively in the negotiations on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and to strive to bring them to an early and successful conclusion. Once the negotiations on the treaty are concluded, I wish to propose that a ceremony for its signing by heads of State or government be held in Japan, for example, in the city of Hiroshima, and that it be made a new starting-point for the elimination of nuclear weapons once and for all.
