

Explanation of Vote by Japan
"Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing Depleted Uranium"
(A/C.1/63/L.26)

- I would like to explain why Japan supported in the voting the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/63/L.26, entitled "Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing Depleted Uranium."
- Based on last year's resolution, Japan has submitted its views on the issue of depleted uranium munitions to the Secretary General of the United Nations. Studies into the effects on human health and the environment of the use of armaments and munitions containing depleted uranium have been or are in the process of being carried out by the relevant international organizations. Nevertheless, we recognize that at present no internationally definitive conclusion has been drawn from these investigations. We will continue to follow closely the developments in the studies being conducted by the relevant organizations.
- In this connection, Japan commends the international organizations that carried out all the studies and activities related to munitions containing depleted uranium, including the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). We also wish to convey our appreciation to the IAEA and the WHO for submitting their views to the current Secretary General.
- Japan would like to call upon all the relevant international organizations to continue their on-site studies as well as to undertake further information collection, and to submit as appropriate their views on the effects that the use of depleted uranium munitions may have on the human body and the environment.

Thank you.