

**Second International Conference to the EWIPA Political Declaration**  
**Wednesday November 19, 2025**

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express Japan's sincere appreciation to the government of Costa Rica for hosting the second international conference on the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences arising from the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (EWIPA).

Against the backdrop of the current severe international security situation, this Declaration is of great significance as it reconfirms the principles of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and promotes practical and concrete measures on them for the protection of civilians in armed conflict. IHL provides a robust legal basis for regulating the conduct of armed conflict and is the foundation for the protection of civilians in the event of an armed conflict. Japan takes this occasion to reiterate its commitment to compliance with IHL.

Japan attaches great importance to efforts from the 'human security' perspective to protect civilians and strengthen their capability at all stages, from during conflict to reconstruction and development. Japan regards global peacebuilding as a priority area for international cooperation and has been actively engaged in post-conflict emergency humanitarian assistance and support for reconstruction and development, including measures against the effect of explosives in populated areas.

In particular, in the area of mine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) actions, Japan as the President of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention this year, and as a staunch supporter of this Convention, has continued to provide active support for mine actions, including clearance activities, victim assistance and capacity building assistance in cooperation with third countries; Triangular Cooperation.

Recalling, in particular, the humanitarian consequences arising from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, Japan takes this opportunity to call on all parties, including those involved in conflict, to comply with IHL and to join efforts in ensuring humanitarian assistance and providing international assistance after conflict. Japan, together with the other States, international organizations, and civil society present today, will continue to contribute to the international efforts to protect civilians under IHL.

I thank you for your kind attention.