

【Check Against Delivery】

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR RYUTA MIZUUCHI,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Japan
to the OSCE
on “Russia’s on-going aggression against Ukraine”
Permanent Council, OSCE
25 May 2023**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Distinguished Colleagues,

Let me start by thanking our G7 colleagues in this room for the support their home Government have rendered to Japan, enabling the successful conduct of the G7 Hiroshima Summit held in Hiroshima on 19-21 May under challenging circumstances. I also wish to express, in particular, through the Ukrainian delegation, our congratulations for President Zelenskyy's impressive appearance in Hiroshima and participation at the Summit, as well as the positive outcome he managed to receive on that occasion.

The G7 Hiroshima Summit was convened in the belief that the international community is now at a historic turning point, having experienced the COVID-19 pandemic and being faced with Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, which has shaken the very foundation of the international order. The discussion was based on two perspectives: (i) demonstrating G7’s strong determination to uphold the free and open international order based on the rule of law, firmly rejecting any unilateral attempt to change the status quo by force anywhere on earth, or the threat to use nuclear weapons, as Russia has done, or the use of nuclear weapons. And (ii) strengthening engagement with international partners beyond the G7, through demonstrating the G7’s commitment and contributions to the issues of global concern.

On Ukraine, following the discussions amongst the G7, the G7

leaders met with President Zelenskyy and reaffirmed G7's unwavering commitment to provide diplomatic, financial, humanitarian and military assistance to Ukraine.

The G7 leaders, President Zelenskyy and the leaders of eight other countries – namely Australia, Brazil, Comoro Island (AU Chair), Cook Islands (PIF Chair), India (G20 Presidency), Indonesia (ASEAN Chair), ROK and Vietnam – further discussed how to respond to the challenges to peace and stability facing the international community, and confirmed the shared goal of upholding the free and open international order based on the rule of law, without allowing attempts to unilaterally change the status quo by force, anywhere in the world.

The G7 Hiroshima Summit thus offered a rare opportunity for the global representatives to articulate global unity in tackling global challenges, including Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. The chairs of previously mentioned global and regional groups were represented, adding value to the significance of the Summit. Another important aspect of the Summit was the G7's commitment to nuclear disarmament, demonstrated in the issuance of "G7 Leaders' Hiroshima Vision on Nuclear Disarmament" on this issue.

Also, as you can see in the G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, the situation in Ukraine was one of the main topics of discussion throughout this Summit. A standalone statement on Ukraine was issued, as well.

Mr. Chair,

In closing, let me stress that Japan remains committed to continuing to support Ukraine through the bilateral assistance as well as exercising Japan's leadership on the remaining G7 Presidency building on the outcomes of the G7 Hiroshima Summit.

Thank you.