OSCE ASIAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION GROUP MEETING
"The outcomes of the Seoul 2024 REAIM Summit on the responsible application of artificial intelligence in the military domain."
Statement of Japan

11 November 2024

Dear Mr./Madam Moderator, and Distinguished Speakers,

On the occasion of the 5th APCG meeting, the last one of this year but nonetheless a very important one, I would like to first pay tribute to the Republic of Korea and North Macedonia, Chair of the Asian Partners for Co-operation, focusing on such an important theme.

Approaching 1,000 days since the beginning of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and in light of the escalating tensions in the Middle East and beyond, I would like to say that under the current, challenging circumstances, the theme of today's meeting regarding responsible application of AI in the military domain, is one that commands our utmost attention.

The security of Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific is inseparable, as we shared our grave concerns about the the military cooperation between Russia and North Korea, at the joint FSC/PC meeting last week.

Mr./Madam Moderator,

We believe, as long as it is used responsibly, the use of AI in the military domain holds great significance for the security of each country, including rapid information analysis, the reduction of human error, and labor and manpower savings, but it is common knowledge in the international community that likewise, the use of AI in the military domain entails various risks.

Considering this situation, it is important to promote the use of AI in the military domain in a responsible manner, maintaining human-centered

principles, ensuring reliability and predictability, and expressing a commitment that the obligations of international humanitarian law apply to all weapons systems. So we need to fully understand the risks and benefits of technology, and conduct a comprehensive review based on humanitarian considerations and security implications.

Here, I would like to briefly introduce Japan's specific efforts regarding the responsible use of AI in the military domain.

In July of this year, the Ministry of Defense launched its first AI strategy to promote the use of AI. This strategy explains the JMOD's views on various AI-related matters such as application fields, risk controls, data-infrastructure development, human resource recruitment and development, and Research & Development. This strategy serves as a strategic and consistent framework to guide individual initiatives and further develop cooperative relationships with private sectors and other countries. It highlights key areas for AI utilization and publicly declares our commitment to addressing the risks associated with AI use. In the future, we will promote a broad range of initiatives aligned with this strategy, including measures such as building AI data infrastructure, the securing and training of AI and data personnel, and the formulation of guidelines regarding research and development of equipment using AI.

In these initiatives, the Ministry of Defense intends to continue dialogue and cooperation with private sector businesses, and also to actively promote the sharing of knowledge and experience with other countries.

Mr./Madam Moderator,

We appreciate today's Keynote Speaker, Ms. Jiyong Yun as well as the other speakers from various backgrounds sharing the outcomes of the second REAIM Summit held in September and future directions of this initiative.

Japan, alongside the G7 and other like-minded countries, welcomes the progress made at the second REAIM summit.
"The REAIM Blueprint for Action" shows the benefits of applying AI in the military domain, and is balanced in its presentation of principles, including

human responsibility and accountability for responsible AI, which is very much consistent with Japan's focus.

To ensure responsible military application of AI, Japan will continue to actively and constructively participate in discussions in the OSCE, G7 and other international fora, in order to achieve a shared understanding in the international community through balanced discussions that take into account humanitarian and security perspectives.

I hope that today's meeting will further strengthen the momentum for future international cooperation.

I thank you.