



80th UN General Assembly First Committee
Explanation of Vote (Cluster 3)
4 November 2025, New York

Thank you, Mr Chair,

Japan would like to explain the reason for its vote on L.38 (Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space).

Japan agrees with the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space and the need for further practical measures. However, Japan voted against this draft resolution for the following problematic issues contained in it.

Firstly, given the increasing reliance on and multiplying activities and actors related to outer space, there is a need for a more holistic and practical approach to prevent an arms race in outer space. In this regard, it is particularly vital to take into account the dual-use nature of space objects and technologies and address current and potential space threats. Unfortunately, this resolution failed to acknowledge the arguments made in the Open-Ended Working Group on reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours.

Secondly, while Japan welcomes the discussions in the Group of Governmental Experts on Further Practical Measures for the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, my delegation needs to point out that this resolution intentionally focuses solely on the substantial discussions on a Legally Binding Instrument, without taking note of the GGE's recommendations to continue further consideration of measures on PAROS through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours.

Thirdly, Japan reiterates its appreciation for the efforts made by our Egyptian and Brazilian colleagues which led to the establishment of the open-ended working group on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects pursuant to UNGA Decision 79/512. These efforts have incentivized all participants to engage constructively towards our shared goal of a safe, secure, and sustainable outer space. Unfortunately, this spirit of constructive engagement is absent in OP9 of L38.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

(END)