

Japan's tentative comments on
Draft Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from
Humanitarian Harm arising from the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated
Areas

The following comments from Japan are not exhaustive and without prejudice to Japan's position on this political declaration.

- Japan requests for clarification on the meaning of the similar but different terms in this draft, namely, "populated area" and "urban area", as well as "armed conflict", "hostilities", and "warfare". Words and phrases should be consistent throughout the declaration.
- Japan would like to confirm that this document is not legally binding. (such revision as from "*agree*" to "*specify*" in paragraph 4.1)
- In addition to the comments presented above, Japan would like to reiterate its comments made on the Principles in February, although those comments are not exhaustive.

(end)