

Government of Japan's Intervention  
for Cluster 1 on the 6th Committee Meetings  
of the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session  
New York, 10-14 April 2023

Thank you, Chair.

- I would like to comment on the Preamble and Article 1 on the Draft article on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity.
- Japan believes that it is important for a Convention on Crimes Against Humanity to be adopted with broad support.
- To this end, appropriate consideration must be given to the circumstances of each country, including consistency with criminal law principles and its national legal systems.
- As indicated in the commentary prepared by the ILC, we would like to confirm non-retroactivity of this draft articles.
- Non-retroactivity of treaties is a widely accepted principle in the international context.
- Especially in the criminal field, the prohibition of retroactive punishment is a crucial principle, as clearly provided in the Rome Statute.
- Therefore, it is desirable that the prohibition of retroactive application should be explicitly stipulated in this draft article.