



PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release

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**Statement by Ms. Naoko Saiki, Head of the Delegation of Japan
to the tenth session of the Preparatory Commission of the
International Criminal Court**

**1 July 2002 United Nations Headquarters,
New York**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

The Japanese Delegation would also like to join the others who gathered here in celebrating this historic occasion of the entry into force of the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court. On this memorable day, the Japanese Foreign Minister has issued a brief statement which I would like to share with those are present.

It reads;

Statement by Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoriko Kawaguchi

**Concerning the Entry into Force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal
Court**

- 1. The Government of Japan welcomes the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC). This Statute will contribute to preventing the most serious crimes of concern to the international community from recurring in the future, thus further strengthening international peace and stability. The Rome Statute bears particular significance as it establishes, for the first time in history, a standing international court to judge such crimes.**
- 2. Japan has consistently supported the establishment of the ICC. During the Rome Diplomatic Conference in 1998, Japan worked actively for the adoption of the ICC Statute. Japan has also been actively engaging in the effort to establish the ICC, including participating in ten sessions of the Preparatory Commission in New York. Japan has sent its delegations to all the deliberations to make a constructive contribution.**
- 3. With regard to its conclusion of the ICC Statute, the Government of Japan is currently conducting a thorough examination of the articles of the Statute, legal measures taken by**