

JAPAN'S STATEMENT TO PLENARY ON PANEL 1
(Document PA1-550)

In his summary report of Panel 1 discussion, the Panel 1 Chair concluded that there was no consensus on his proposal concerning Rec. 19-02 (PA1-503A), thus the discussion is deferred to the Plenary to seek a consensus. Japan does not support this conclusion of Panel 1 discussion.

At the Panel 1 discussion, the Panel 1 Chair submitted his initial proposal (PA1-503) which basically extends paragraphs expiring at the end of 2020 to 2021. This proposal received only supportive comments during the two-week corresponding period but minor editorial suggestions from one CPC. No objection was submitted to PA1-503. Then, the second proposal (PA1-503A) reflecting such editorial suggestions was tabled just for endorsement from the Panel 1 members. Our understanding is that PA1-503A reflects the views of Panel 1 members which were duly submitted, thus is the legitimate outcome of the Panel 1 discussion.

However, at that stage, a few CPCs expressed their objections to PA1-503A. Since these objections had not been submitted against PA1-503 during the first round, Japan considers such objections against PA1-503A being too late and invalid, thus do not deserve any consideration.

Japan is therefore of the view that the only legitimate conclusion of Panel 1 discussion is PA1-503A and does not believe further discussion at the Plenary is required. Japan respectfully requests that the summary report by the Panel 1 Chair (PA1-550) be corrected so that PA1-503A is considered to be adopted by the Panel 1.