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Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 21 November 2025 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Recently, when responding at the Diet, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi blatantly made provocative remarks on Taiwan, implying the possibility of armed intervention in the Taiwan Strait. This marks the first time since Japan's defeat in 1945 that a Japanese leader has advocated in an official setting the notion that "a contingency for Taiwan is a contingency for Japan" and linked it to the exercise of the right of collective self-defence; the first time Japan has expressed ambitions to intervene militarily in the Taiwan question; and the first time Japan has issued a threat of force against China, openly challenging China's core interests. These remarks are gravely erroneous and extremely dangerous, with a profoundly malicious nature and impact. Despite China's repeated démarches and protests, the Japanese side refuses to repent or retract its wrongful statements. China expresses strong dissatisfaction and resolute opposition. I have therefore been instructed to state the following positions of the Chinese Government:

First, Takaichi's remarks constitute a grave violation of international law and the basic norms governing international relations, and seriously undermine the post-war international order. From the perspective of international law, the Cairo Declaration, the Potsdam Proclamation, and the Japanese Instrument of Surrender explicitly confirmed China's sovereignty over Taiwan, Japan's obligation to return the stolen territories, including Taiwan, to China, and the principles for post-war arrangements concerning Japan. These documents form an integral part of the post-war international order. The Charter of the United Nations clearly stipulates that Member States shall refrain from "threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state". Takaichi's statements run counter to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The international community should clearly recognize the dangers inherent in these remarks and remain vigilant against Japan's ambitions to overturn the post-war international order.

Second, Takaichi's remarks grossly violate the one-China principle and the spirit of the four political documents between China and Japan, and constitute a serious breach of the commitments made by the Japanese Government on the Taiwan question. The 1972 Sino-Japanese Joint Statement explicitly states that "the Government of Japan recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal



Government of China” and that Japan “fully understands and respects” the position of the Government of the People’s Republic of China that “Taiwan is an inalienable part of the territory of the People’s Republic of China” and “firmly maintains its stand under Article 8 of the Potsdam Proclamation”. Such position has since been explicitly reaffirmed by the Japanese Government in a series of treaties and statements between the two countries. Takaichi’s words and actions are grossly inconsistent with Japan’s solemn commitment on the Taiwan question. China firmly rejects them.

Third, Takaichi’s remarks represent an open provocation to the more than 1.4 billion Chinese people and to the peoples of other Asian countries that once suffered from Japanese aggression. Throughout its history, Japanese militarists have repeatedly used the so-called “survival-threatening situation” as a pretext to launch foreign aggression, including the September 18 Incident in 1931, under the pretext of the right of self-defence, to launch aggression against China and occupy Northeast China, inflicting untold suffering on the people of China. During its colonial aggression in Asia, Japan also invoked “survival-threatening situation” to justify wars, committing countless atrocities against local populations. However, even today, some forces in Japan still keep on campaigning the wrong perspective of history of World War II, pay homage to the Yasukuni Shrine, where Class-A war criminals of World War II are honored, revise historical textbooks in primary and middle schools, deny the Nanjing Massacre, the forced recruitment of “comfort women”, and other historical facts, and peddle revisionist historical narratives such as “end of war” not being defeat, all in a futile attempt to distort, deny, and glorify its history of aggression and colonial rule. Now, Takaichi again raised the issue of “survival-threatening situation”. What is her true intention? Is Japan going to repeat its past mistakes of militarism? Does Japan try to once again make enemies with the Chinese and other Asian people?

The Taiwan question is at the core of China’s core interests, and is an untouchable red line and bottom line. This year marks the 80th anniversary of Taiwan’s restoration to China. Taiwan is China’s sacred territory. How to resolve the Taiwan question is a matter for the Chinese people and brooks no foreign interference. If Japan dares to attempt an armed intervention in the cross-Strait situation, it would be an act of aggression. China will resolutely exercise its right of self-defence under the Charter of the United Nations and international law and firmly defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity. As a defeated country of World War II, Japan must deeply reflect upon its historical crimes, strictly honor its political commitment on the Taiwan question, immediately stop making provocations and crossing the line, and retract its erroneous remarks.

I have the honour to request that the present letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 120, entitled “Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations”.

(signed) FU Cong
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of the People’s Republic of China to the United Nations