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UPR of Brazil – Statement of Japan

25 May 2012

Thank you, Madam President,

Japan joins others in welcoming the delegation of Brazil and expresses our appreciation for the efforts of the Brazilian government in this UPR process.

We welcome the steps Brazil has been taking under President Rousseff to promote gender equality. In particular, we commend the efforts to encourage wider participation of women in policy-making processes and toward the elimination of violence against women.

While taking positive note of Brazil's commitment to fulfill in a timely manner the WHO target for the elimination of leprosy, Japan **recommends** that Brazil address discrimination and prejudice against leprosy in line with the Principles and Guidelines for the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy and Their Family Members and the relevant General Assembly resolution.

Improvement of the treatment of detainees in correctional facilities was recommended during Brazil's last review. We are concerned that continued issues with overcrowding and violence in prisons have been pointed out. Japan **recommends** that, while taking note of the National Programme to Support the Prison System and the Law on Precautionary Measures which were established in 2011, the effectiveness of these mechanisms be closely monitored and that they be reviewed if necessary.

Japan referred to the issue of sexual exploitation of children in Brazil's previous UPR review, and we note that more recently the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) raised similar concerns about human trafficking of women and girls for the purpose of prostitution as well as their sexual exploitation in tourist zones. While we understand that the National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking is already under review, Japan expects that Brazil will promote coordination and information sharing among relevant national agencies, including its law enforcement agencies, strengthen its policy in order to prevent new victims and protect existing ones, and ensure greater effectiveness for international cooperation.

I thank you.