

Justin Sobion

**Statement by The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago at the Universal Periodic Review of Japan in the Human Rights Council on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012**

Thank you Madame President

My delegation takes the opportunity this afternoon to warmly greet the Japanese delegation and wishes to thank them for the delivery of their comprehensive report.

Even in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, Trinidad and Tobago wishes to congratulate Japan on its commitment and the partnerships developed to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

My delegation also wishes to applaud the Government's "Third Basic Plan for Gender Equality" which mandate includes, inter alia, the "elimination of all forms of violence against women" as a priority area.

In concluding my delegation recommends:

1. To adopt the Special Rapporteur's recommendation to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and to bring perpetrators to account.
2. To further advance all efforts to realize Japan as a gender-equal society and
3. To further advance efforts to address the root causes of trafficking and to protect and to support victims of trafficking.

I thank you Madame President.

**The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland**

**31<sup>st</sup> October, 2012**