

UPR of Republic of Korea– Statement of Japan
25 October 2012

MR. TAKASHI
OKADA
AMBASSADOR

Mr/Madam President,

Japan joins others in welcoming the delegation of the Republic of Korea headed by H.E. X and expresses its appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the Korean government to prepare for this review.

We applaud the steps being taken, mainly through the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, to improve its human rights situation.

Japan welcomes the measures that have been put in place based on previous recommendations to secure the rights of the child, including amendment of the Child Welfare Act, introduction of legal provisions to prohibit corporal punishment in schools, and amendments to the Act on the Protection of Children and Juveniles from Sexual Abuse. At the same time, some gaps in guaranteeing children's rights in Korea continue to be pointed out, including issues in trafficking in children as well as violence against and sexual exploitation of children. Japan **recommends** that the government continue to further its efforts to guarantee the rights of the child.

Japan also **recommends** that the government take further action to guarantee freedom of expression on the internet, including opinions which are different from the positions of the government.

Finally, we appreciate the steps that have been taken by the government to increase employment opportunities and improve the employment situation for women and to promote women's rights. Japan **recommends** that effort in this regard continues.

I thank you.