

Amb. Takashi OKADA

57

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## UPR of Zambia – Statement of Japan

30 October 2012

Thank you, Mr/Madam President,

Japan welcomes the peaceful transfer of power which took place in Zambia following the September 2011 general elections. We appreciate the consultative process to amend the Constitution that is making progress under the current administration. Japan strongly hopes that the draft Constitution will ensure the separation of powers; guarantee the rights of women, children, and other socially vulnerable groups; and duly reflect the wishes and aspirations of the people of Zambia.

Japan commends that Zambia, having accepted recommendations on gender issues during its previous UPR review, has enacted the Anti-Gender-Based Violence Act No. 1 and begun work to implement a related national plan of action. Japan **recommends** that the Government of Zambia strengthen its efforts to combat violence against women, including by enacting and implementing necessary legislation and measures to ensure proper investigation and prosecution of sexual violence, thereby promoting access to remedy for victims.

We understand that Zambia has taken measures to improve conditions in detention facilities in accordance with the accepted recommendations. Japan **recommends** that Zambia continue to improve its treatment of prisoners in keeping with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

I thank you.