

UPR of France– Statement of Japan

Monday, 21 January 2013 (9:00-12:30)

Mr President,

Japan welcomes that the government of France is taking steps to further ensure the protection of the human rights of its citizens, including through the establishment of the *Défenseur des droits* in 2011.

Japan commends that the half of the Cabinet posts under the Hollande administration are filled by women, and that France has established the *Ministère des Droits des femmes*. We hope that this institution will fulfill its role of promoting measures to contribute to the respect of women's rights; eliminating discrimination against women; and guaranteeing their political, economic, educational, social, health, and cultural equality.

Japan appreciates that the eviction of Roma and the practice of financial incentives for Roma to return to their countries of origin are announced to be abolished.

Japan **recommends** that France continues to respond to the previous recommendations by several Special Rapporteurs to ensure that its policies and practices regarding the dismantling of Roma settlements and the expulsion of migrant Roma conform in all respects to European and international human rights law.

Japan also appreciates the formulation of the National Action Plan against Racism and Anti-Semitism (2012-2014) and the effort to eradicate all forms of discrimination by reason of ethnic origin. Japan **recommends** that measures to eliminate racial and ethnic discrimination continue.

I thank you.