

## UPR of the Central African Republic— Statement of Japan

25 October 2013

With the political changes last December and this March, the security situation has worsened and, as noted in the UN compilation report, the number of IDPs and refugees has grown. Japan recognizes that this situation can be, in turn, linked to the worsening humanitarian situation.

In response to this, it is vital that measures be taken to restore constitutional order, improve the security situation, and ameliorate the humanitarian situation. To improve the grave human rights situation, Japan **recommends** active cooperation with the international community, in particular UN mechanisms, as well as promotion of democratic rule and restoration of law and order. As a part of that, we hope that impunity will be eradicated, arbitrary and illegal detention and torture prohibited, and security restored as soon as possible.

Japan is concerned by the growing sexual violence against women, including incidents of rape, gang rape, and sexual slavery, as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on sexual violence in conflict has noted. Japan has implemented refugee assistance for the prevention of sexual violence through UNHCR. We expect active participation in measures being taken by the UN in this area and hopes that legislation that prohibits FGM (female genital mutilation) will be strictly enforced. In addition, Japan **recommends** ceasing the use of child soldiers by local self-defence militia.