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UPR of Afghanistan – Statement of Japan

27 January 2014

Mr. President,

Since the fall of the Taliban in 2001, Afghanistan has, with the cooperation of the international community, developed the Constitution and various laws, which protect human rights across many areas. Japan expects this development of legal system for the promotion of human rights to continue and **recommends** that Afghanistan make further efforts to ensure the implementation laws which guarantee human rights, including the Constitution.

In the field of criminal justice and the rule of law, various issues such as delays and failures in the court system, unfair trials, and torture of detainees, have been pointed out. Japan **recommends** that Afghanistan take measures to improve the criminal justice system, including through the implementation of the 164 articles outlined in Presidential Decree No. 45 of August 2012.

Japan notes with appreciation the series of measures Afghanistan has taken for the promotion and protection of women's rights, such as the formulation of the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan (NAPWA) and the establishment of the 2009 Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) Law. Japan **recommends** the steady enforcement and implementation of measures and legislation designed to promote and protect women's rights.

The security and prosperity of Afghanistan and the surrounding region is of vital importance to the entire international community. Japan will also continue to

support Afghanistan in their efforts for the promotion and protection of economic and social rights, including in the development of the foundation for economic growth and human resources, the agriculture sector as anti-poverty measures (including policies to secure means of livelihood for women), the education and health sector (particularly for women).

Thank you.