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Japan: 23<sup>th</sup>

## UPR of Yemen– Statement of Japan

29 January 2014

Japan commends Yemen's cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms including [the ratification of core international human rights instruments,] the fulfilment of reporting obligations to treaty bodies and the establishment of the OHCHR office in the country. Japan also welcomes the national process to accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

We support the ongoing national dialogue in Yemen and strongly hope that this process will lead to further improvement of the human rights situation in the country including by addressing remaining challenges [such as transitional justice, promotion of women's rights and empowerment].

We note with concern that, despite tangible developments made over the past years, there still remains inequality in school enrolment rate between boys and girls and that early marriage continues in some parts of the country. Japan recommends that Yemen continue efforts to eradicate early marriage and take necessary measures to further promote girls' education including through enhancement of the educational system.

We recognise that there are reports of unlawful arrests and torture by law enforcement authorities. As effective functioning of the judiciary is fundamental to the protection of human rights, Japan recommends that Yemen strengthen the capacity of law enforcement personnel.

I thank you.