

Mr. Kotaro Suzuki  
Minister  
Permanent Mission of Japan

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UPR of Madagascar— Statement of Japan

3 November 2014

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Thank you, Mr. /Madam President,

Japan would like to warmly welcome the delegation of Madagascar to the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group and express our appreciation for Madagascar's efforts in implementing the recommendations of its 1<sup>st</sup> UPR cycle even though the political crisis.

We are concerned by the deterioration of the human rights situation since the crisis which began in 2009. On the other hand, we note with appreciation the peaceful and transparent implementation of presidential and parliamentary elections. Japan **recommends** that concrete steps be taken to protect and promote freedom of expression and press freedom as outlined in the roadmap for ending the crisis.

Japan welcomes Madagascar's engagement with human rights mechanisms through issuing a standing invitation to Special Procedures as well as its cooperation with OHCHR. Japan **recommends** that Madagascar consider timely ratification of the major international human rights instruments, including CPED and CRPD.

Japan is prepared to actively support the measures being taken by the current administration for national reconciliation and improvement of the human rights situation. We hope that the government, under the leadership of President Hery RAJAONARIMAMPIANINA, will make further efforts to improve the human

rights.

Thank you.