

68

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## UPR of Sudan – Statement of Japan

4 May 2016

Thank you, Mr. President,

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Sudan to this session.

Japan welcomes the progress of the national dialogue as well as the launching of full-fledged activities by the Sudan National Commission for Human Rights. Japan has been supporting the capacity building of the Commission in recognition of the importance of its role in monitoring the human rights situation in Sudan. We hope that the national dialogue will be truly inclusive and that sincere discussion will be held on the various human rights issues.

We are concerned by reports of continued conflicts, as well of denial of humanitarian access in certain areas. Japan recommends that both the Government and armed groups immediately cease all forms of conflict and ensure humanitarian access for IDPs.

Japan also expresses its concern at restricted political freedom and freedom of expression resulting from regulation of the media, as well as from arbitrary arrests, detention and executions, and torture by the authorities. [As previously expressed in the recommendations from the UN Human Rights Committee and the Independent Expert,] Japan recommends Sudan to consider the possibility of re-examining areas of its legislation that have led to these issues, as part of a wider effort to strengthen the rule of law.

I thank you Mr. President.