**UPR of Haiti – Statement of Japan**

**Check against delivery**

**Mr.Kansuke NAGAOKA, Minister**

**The Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva**

**7 November 2016**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Haiti to this session.

We are worried about the damages caused by Hurricane Matthew last month. In addressing the situation, it is crucial to maintain a continuous supply of food and water and health services. Japan **recommends** that support in these areas be provided not only in the direct aftermath of the disaster, but also in the reconstruction phase, with special consideration given for women and children and other particularly vulnerable groups.

Democratic elections, which form the basis for the rule of law and constitutional order, are essential not only for political stability but also for economic growth and a stable society. As such, Japan welcomes the Haitian government’s leading role in efforts to hold elections and encourages the government to steadily move the election process forward.

To protect the vulnerable and defend justice and legitimate interests, Japan **recommends** that Haiti ensure the rule of law, in particular through proper management of judicial structures and systems. Such structures and systems are extremely important to ensure normal and progressive economic activities, which form the basis of governance, civil life and national development.

Finally, Japan **recommends** Haiti to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED) as early as possible.

I thank you Mr. President.