**UPR of Iceland – Statement of Japan**

**Check against delivery**

**Ambassador Mitsuko SHINO**

**The Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva**

**1 November 2016**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Japan warmly welcomes the Icelandic delegation to this session.

Japan welcomes the fact that basic human rights are assured in Iceland to a high level in a wide range of fields.

Iceland is acclaimed for being number one in the world in terms of gender equality. We highly commend the country on the measures it has taken to date to improve the status of women and to promote women’s participation in society. Japan **recommends** Iceland to continue active measures and initiatives to minimize the gender gap. In this regard, I would like to ask Iceland to kindly share with us any measures it is taking to implement the 2030 Agenda.

We commend Iceland on its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPRD) in September this year. I would like to ask Iceland about any new legal systems or measures that it has introduced in this connection.

Japan **recommends** Iceland to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED) as early as possible, which Iceland signed in 2008. As such, I would like to ask about any positive progress made, or any difficulties encountered, by Iceland in its preparations to ratify the convention.

I thank you Mr. President.