**UPR of Belgium — Statement of Japan**

**Mr. MAEHIRA Tomoyoshi**

**First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan**

**5 May 2021**

Thank you.

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Belgium to this session.

Japan highly appreciates the positive steps taken by Belgium to protect and promote the rights of the child as well as its adoption of the National Plan of Action on Business and Human Rights in 2017.

Japan would like to make three recommendations:

1. further promote the rights of the child, including the improvement of the situation of children living in poverty and children with disabilities;
2. strengthen efforts to further promote business and human rights, including through the drafting of its second plan of action;
3. take further measures to prevent hate crimes and hate speeches, especially COVID-19 related hate incidents as well as hate speeches and hate crimes against people with migrant backgrounds, including thorough investigation of allegations of police violence against migrants.

We wish the delegation of Belgium every success in the review.

I thank you.