**UPR of Sierra Leone — Statement of Japan**

**Permanent Mission of Japan**

 **12 May 2021**

Thank you.

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Sierra Leone to this session.

Japan is deeply appreciative of the positive steps taken by Sierra Leone to advance the rights of women, including recognizing the rights of women to confer citizenship as well as eliminating discrimination against women regarding equitable access over land resources. (National report paras 47, 55, UN report paras 7, 52, NGO report para 23)

Japan would like to make two recommendations:

1. ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED); and
2. strengthen efforts to promote and protect the rights of children, including ending child labour, early marriage, and sexual violence against children as well as working towards the physical and psychosocial recovery of former child soldiers. (UN report paras 56-60).

We wish the delegation of Sierra Leone every success in the review.

I thank you.