**UPR of Venezuela — Statement of Japan**

**TAKAI Ken**

**Position, Permanent Mission of Japan**

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Thank you.

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Venezuela to this session.

Japan takes note of positive steps taken by Venezuela since the previous review cycle, notably its cooperation with the OHCHR through the signing of the MOU in 2019 to establish an official OHCHR filed presence and the start of the National Dialogue in 2021, hoping for its immediate resumption this year.

Japan would like to make three recommendations:

1. expand areas of cooperation with the OHCHR, including by assuring the free and safe movement of the OHCHR staff and their unhindered access to detention centers and other facilities, and promote cooperation with ICC;
2. ratify the International Convention for Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED) as early as possible ; and
3. take concrete measures to ensure freedoms of opinion and expression as well as freedom of media taking into account reports submitted by human rights treaty bodies and institutions.

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

I thank you.