**UPR of Sudan — Statement of Japan**

**BHATTI Amuto**

**Human Rights Adviser, Permanent Mission of Japan**

 **1 February 2022**

Thank you.

Japan is deeply concerned about the human rights situation in Sudan, including violence against protesters and wrongful detention of activists. We strongly condemn the actions taken by the Sudanese Armed Forces that undermine the transition to civilian rule based on the Constitutional Declaration.

Moreover, we are concerned about the recent decision that expands the authority of the security forces, which may exacerbate the human rights situation in Sudan.

In this context Japan would like to make two recommendations:

1 ensure equal and full participation in political and public affairs, freedom of expression, and press freedom and safety of journalists; and

2. immediately halt unnecessary and disproportionate use of force against peaceful protestors and conduct investigations into violence against the protesters, including gender-based violence, alleged to have been committed by the Sudanese Armed Forces.

I thank you.