Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR42 – Japan

31st January 2023

Thank you, Mr. President.

Lithuania warmly welcomes the delegation of Japan and thanks it for its National Report.

We acknowledge Japan’s progress since the last UPR, in particular the adoption of the *5th Basic Plan for Gender Equality* and measures taken to protect rights of the child.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, Lithuania wishes to offer Japan the following recommendations:

* One, continue efforts towards the establishment of an independent National Human Rights Institution, in compliance with the *Paris Principles.*
* Two, consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and introduce a moratorium on the death penalty as the first step towards its abolition.
* Three, continue efforts for preventing, combating and monitoring all forms of violence and abuse against women and children.
* Four, take measures to increase women’s representation in public sector decision-making positions.

We wish Japan a successful review.

I thank you.