**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE REVIEW OF THE UPR REPORT OF JAPAN AT THE 42ND SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**23 JANUARY-3 FEBRUARY 2023**

**31 JANUARY 2023-09AM-12:30PM**

**Thank you Mr Vice President,**

The Gambia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Japan and thank them for their continued and constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

We wish to commend Japan on the amendment of the Basic Act for Persons with Disabilities to be in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and we equally note Japan’s efforts in strengthening measures to prevent child abuse.

**Mr Vice President,**

The Gambia would like to make the following recommendations to the delegation of Japan;

1. That Japan strengthens enforcement and prosecutorial mechanisms to combat the sexual exploitation and human trafficking of girls and women.

2. That Japan enact laws for the comprehensive definition of discrimination against women.

**Mr Vice President,**

In conclusion, my delegation wishes the distinguished delegation of Japan a successful review and fruitful deliberations.

**Thank you.**