**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

42nd session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Japan***

31 January 2023

Mr. President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the Delegation of Japan and thanks for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

We commend the consistent legislative, institutional and policy measures that the Government of Japan has taken to implement the accepted recommendation of the third cycle of the UPR.

Bulgaria praises that on 15 June 2022 the Japanese Parliament enacted legislation to set up the Children and Family Agency, which is due to launch in April 2023.

We highlight the adoption of the Japan National Action Plan to End Violence against Children in August 2021.

We welcome the campaign to promote responsible business conduct among entrepreneurial organizations in the country, following the adoption of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in 2021.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendation to Japan:

 1. Continue its efforts to increase the proportion of women in the legislature, the executive and the judiciary, particularly in senior positions;

 2. Further promote inclusive education of children with disabilities by upgrading its education legislation, policies and administrative arrangements;

 3. Continue dialogue with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to further promote and protect human rights.

We wish the Delegation of Japan a successful outcome of the review!

Thank you, Mr. President.