Thank you.

Japan takes note of the steps taken by the Malian authorities since the previous review.

We welcome the efforts made by the Malian authorities in the security context, which is essential for the overall improvement of the human rights situation. We recognize that it is important for the Malian authorities to continue their efforts such as trainings in the field that have been provided to members of the Malian defence and security forces in collaboration with the MINUSMA.

Japan reiterates the importance to respect the timelines for political transition and organize free and fair elections. In this regard, we recommend the Malian authorities to guarantee civic space by promoting the enjoyment of the freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association.

We wish the delegation of the Malian authorities every success in the review.

I thank you.