**UPR of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia — Statement of Japan**

**Ambassador　Ken OKANIWA  
The Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva  
5 November 2018**

Thank you, Mr. President.

　 Japan appreciates the activities of the Saudi Arabian Government to support persons with disabilities, notably the Sports Agency’s program to promote their participation in sports activities and other assistance provided by the King Salman Centre for Disability Research and the Prince Sultan Centre for Special Education Support Services to persons with disabilities, including children.

Concerning the recent killing of a journalist, Japan aligns itself with the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement. Japan looks forward to an early investigation of the truth and the resolution of this matter in a credible and transparent manner through cooperation of the governments concerned.

Based on the above, Japan recommends the following:

1. While welcoming measures to promote social advancement of women including abolishing the ban on driving, we recommend　further actions in this regard.
2. We recommend early ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED); and
3. We recommend further actions to promote freedom of expression, including by fostering a political and social environment that more broadly accepts the activities of journalists etc.

I thank you, Mr. President.