**UPR of Ethiopia — Statement of Japan**

**Mr. Masashi Nakagome
Minister, the Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva
14 May 2019**

Thank you, Madam Vice-President.

 We warmly welcome the delegation of Ethiopia.

Japan appreciates Ethiopia’s various reforms undertaken by Prime Minister Abiy and commends progress on empowerment of women, protection of refugees, and enhancement of civil and political rights.

We welcome Ethiopia’s decision to accept the country visit by the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members, Ms. Alice Cruz.

Japan would like to make the following recommendations:

1. further strengthen efforts to promote the rights of women; and
2. ensure the upcoming elections are conducted in a free, fair, and democratic manner.

I wish the delegation of Ethiopia every success in this review.

I thank you, Madam Vice-President.