**UPR of Iraq — Statement of Japan**

**Mr. Ken OKANIWA**

**Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Japan**

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Thank you, Vice President.

Japan welcomes actions taken by Iraq to promote and protect human rights, including the issuance of an experimental booklet entitled “Human rights in the army” by the Ministry of Defense, despite the continuation of the fight against extremist groups including ISIL. We appreciate Iraq’s efforts.

Japan would like to propose three recommendations:

1. take further actions to promote and protect the rights of women and children, including those who suffer from conflict situations.
2. strengthen human rights education and respect for international humanitarian law in the armed forces and security organizations, including the Popular Mobilization Forces(PMF): and
3. promote effective reform measures by the government, the legislature and the judiciary while respecting the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of peaceful demonstration and giving due regard to the requests of the peaceful protesters.

I thank you, Vice President.