**UPR of Bulgaria — Statement of Japan**

**Ambassador OKANIWA Ken**

**Permanent Mission of Japan**

**6 November 2020**

Thank you, Madam President.

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria to this session.

Japan would like to make three recommendations:

1. ensure equal and quality education for all by continuing to address the issue of school dropout and improving access to quality education regardless of a person’s ethnicity and region;
2. ensure equal access to affordable health care for all by reducing the disparity between regions;
3. further promote the rights of persons with disabilities by improving access of children with disabilities to inclusive education and by accelerating care in the community.

Japan appreciates Bulgaria’s efforts to promote equality between women and men, including by steadily implementing the National Strategy for the Promotion of Equality between Women and Men (2016-2020) and legislative amendments to the Criminal Code to prevent and combat domestic violence.

Japan wishes the delegation of Bulgaria every success in the review.

I thank you, Madam President.