**UPR of Croatia— Statement of Japan**

**Mr. MAEHIRA Tomoyoshi**

**First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan**

**10 November 2020**

Thank you, Madam President.

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Croatia to this session.

Japan highly appreciates the positive steps taken by Croatia to protect and promote the rights of ethnic minorities, women, children, elderly people, pensioners, unemployed persons and persons with disabilities, including a new Protocol to be followed in Cases of Sexual Violence (2018)(State para.4), the Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2014-2020 (State para.5) and initiatives taken after August this year towards more tolerant society and inter-ethnic harmony.

Japan would like to make two recommendations:

1. Continue efforts to promote inter-ethnic harmony including effective steps towards protection and social inclusion for all minority groups; and
2. ensure that children with disabilities are protected on an equal basis with others in all legislation, policies and measures aimed at children (UN para.37).

We wish the delegation of Croatia every success in the review.

I thank you, Madam President.