**Intervention of Slovenia**

**Review of Japan**

**28th Session of UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 14 November 2017**

Mr President,

Slovenia would like to thank the distinguished delegation of Japan for the national report and its presentation today.

We would like to make the following recommendations to Japan:

* adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women in line with article 1 of CEDAW;
* accede to the Second Optional protocol to ICCPR and optional protocol to CAT.

Slovenia urges Japan to establish an official moratorium on executions as a first step towards abolition of the death penalty. We are concerned over reports of several UN human rights bodies that Japan's laws and practices governing the prison system do not comply with the UN Standards.

Slovenia welcomes the progress Japan achieved in pursuing gender equality and would like to strongly encourage the Government to remove the remaining discriminatory provisions from the legislation as well as to tackle the lack of legal protection.

We encourage Japan to further challenge traditional notions of masculinities, gender stereotypes and traditional norms, laws and practices that support them. In this view, we encourage the Government to review educational textbooks and materials.

Thank you.