

As delivered by Amb. Takashi OKADA

Human Rights Council 23rd Session

Item 2: Update by HC followed by General Debate

Geneva, 27 May 2013

Thank you, Mr President,

Japan welcomes the periodic report provided by the High Commissioner Ms Navi Pillay.

As we speak, in various parts of the world, human rights tragedies are taking place, including those in Syria, as mentioned by the HC. The Human Rights Council must exert its maximum efforts in responding to each of those situations around the world and the HRC should also address other important thematic human rights priorities.

Japan highly commends the active role that both the High Commissioner

and the dedicated staff of her office play in the protection and promotion of human rights. We should enable the office to carry out its activities to the maximum extent possible within the limitations of budget constraints. At the same time, we must find ways to regulate the ever-expanding budget of the office. In this context, we should seriously consider improving the ways in which the PBI information is shared in the course of negotiation of resolutions.

It is essential that in this session of the Council that we overcome differences of opinion and find common ground on how to realize progress on actual situations of human rights. We look forward to participating in this session of the Council from such a perspective.

I thank you.