

**34th Session of the Human Rights Council
Individual ID with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the
Syrian Arab Republic
(14 March 2017)**

**Statement by Ambassador Mitsuko SHINO
Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva**

Japan acknowledges that the work of the Commission of Inquiry has a decisive role in securing the accountability of the human rights situation in Syria. Japan finds it regrettable that the Commission remains unable to access the country and once again urges the Syrian government to fully cooperate with the Commission.

The information compiled by the Commission including the attack against a humanitarian convoy by Syrian Air Forces was deeply shocking. This resulted many deaths and injuries, and Japan strongly condemns the Syrian government for this. Japan urges the Syrian government to accept the COI report, and to bring those involved in the attack to justice.

Japan also acknowledges the points in the report that not only the Syrian government forces, along with Syria's foreign allies, but also anti-government forces were engaging in attacks violating international humanitarian law. Considering this, Japan again urges all parties to stop immediately the attacks against civilians, hospitals, and schools. Japan also urges all parties to comply with international human rights and humanitarian law.

In spite of the efforts of Mr. Staffan de Mistura, UN Special Envoy, military activity in Syria continues. In this respect, We have a question: Is the Commission willing to take concrete measures for preventing the recurrence of tragedies by directly engaging all parties in dialogue. Japan appreciates the Commission's work to share information on future measures in this regard.

I thank you, Mr. President.