

34th Session of the Human Rights Council
ITEM 4
Interactive Dialogue with:
Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan
(14 March 2017)
Statement by Ambassador Mitsuko SHINO
Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva

Thank you, Mr. President,

Japan pays close attention to the activities and opinions of the Commission. Regrettably, human rights violations in South Sudan have remained a cause for concern. The international community must collectively support the people of South Sudan.

Japan requests that the Government take appropriate preventive measures against gender-based violence, in particular to end impunity for violence against women. Japan requests that the Government ensure accountability for such grave violations of human rights and that it promptly reinstate the rule of law in cooperation with the international community.

Japan has supported South Sudan's nation-building process. Although Japan has decided to end the activities of the SDF engineering unit dispatched to UNMISS, Japan will continue and strengthen its humanitarian assistance for the country to promote peace, stability, and nation-building.

Assuring humanitarian assistance that emphasizes food security for refugees, IDPs, and all people in the country is a pressing issue. In January, Japan decided to disburse approximately 2.24 million dollars in humanitarian and reconstruction assistance through WFP, UNICEF, IGAD, and ICRC. We have also just decided to disburse a further six million dollars in urgent humanitarian assistance. Japan requests the Government and all actors to urgently assure humanitarian access in the country.

The national dialogue announced by President Kiir is essential to urging national reconciliation. It must be inclusive and recognized both domestically and internationally. Japan expects that further involvement by the African Union, IGAD, and other actors, together with Secretary-General Guterres' efforts to accelerate the political process, will contribute to improvements in South Sudan's human rights situation

I thank you, Mr. President.