

35th Session of the Human Rights Council

Clustered Interactive Dialogue with: Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [Item 3: Promotion and protection of human rights] (6 June 2017)

Thank you, Mr. President,

Japan appreciates the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

In regard to mental health, the WHO Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020 sets out a strategy for action in the field of mental health based on scientific evidence and with an emphasis on six cross-cutting principles and approaches including Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and human rights. Japan encourages further collaboration between the Special Rapporteur and WHO.

In regard to human rights, WHO has proposed to national and international partners the introduction of actions to combat stigmatization, discrimination, and other human rights violations towards people with mental disorders and psychosocial disabilities. The Government of Japan believes that the Human Rights Council must play an active role in addressing discrimination based on medical conditions and stigmatization.

Mr. Special Rapporteur,

In this connection, what do you believe can be effective approaches to addressing the main reasons for stigmatization and eliminating discrimination, and what future actions do you believe the Human Rights Council must take in this area?

Mr. Special Rapporteur,

In addition to collaboration with WHO, it is also extremely important for you to collaborate in this area with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities. Could you also kindly share your thoughts on whether sufficient collaboration is taking place.

Thank you