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JFBA/44/22
30 June 2022

ADDRESSED TO:

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Re: Universal Periodic Review of Japan
(42nd session of the Human Rights Council, 23rd January – 3rd February 2023)

Dear Madam/Sir,

Please find attached a written submission of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) for the Universal Periodic Review of Japan to be held on 31st January 2023.

The JFBA was established in 1949, and has an ECOSOC consultative status since 1999. Any person qualified to practice law in Japan becomes a member of the JFBA, and the principle of autonomy/self-governance is a cornerstone of the Japanese attorney system.

As the mission of attorneys is “protecting fundamental human rights and ensuring social justice” (article 1 of the Attorney Act), the JFBA undertakes human rights activities by establishing a number of committees to cover various themes, including (i) operating a human rights relief system; (ii) supporting retrials for people who have been wrongfully convicted guilty; and (iii) conducting study and research and releasing legislative and policy recommendations.

We thank you in advance for your review of our written submission. If you have any question, please contact Masaharu Ogawa (Mr), Chair of the International Human Rights Committee of the JFBA by email: international@nichibenren.or.jp

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Motoji Kobayashi' in a cursive, flowing script.

Motoji KOBAYASHI
President, Japan Federation of Bar Associations