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JFBA/24/17  
28 March 2017

**ADDRESSED TO:**

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Palais des Nations CH 1211 Geneva

Re: Universal Periodic Review of Japan  
(28<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council, 6-17 November 2017)

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 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

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 Emi OMURA (Ms), Chair of the International Human Rights Committee of the JFBA by email: [international@nichibenren.or.jp](mailto:international@nichibenren.or.jp)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K. Nakamoto' in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Kazuhiro NAKAMOTO  
President, Japan Federation of Bar Associations