Answering request of information of the for the preparation for the Report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on Human Rights Council resolution 35/10 entitled, “Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: engaging men and boys in preventing and responding to violence against all women and girls”.

**Japan**

**Questions**

1. What are the concrete steps your Government has taken, at normative, institutional and programme levels to engage men and boys in prompting and achieving gender equality and challenge gender stereotypes and the negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that underlie and perpetuate violence against women and girls? You may wish to refer to various aspects of such effort indicated in the operational paragraphs 9 and 10 of the resolution. Please also elaborate on the impact these steps have had.

(Answer)

In order to effectively prevent both to becoming perpetrators and victims of violence against women and other forms of violence regardless of any gender, Cabinet Office provides training for those who are responsible for educating and raising awareness for youth (including boys) such as school teachers, instructors of educational institutions, staffs of local government and municipality and private sectors. This will promote understanding diverse forms of violence among youth as well as develops capacity of human resource who dealt with youth, which enhance preventive awareness raising activities for youth in the community and schools including violence against women.

The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) has created and distributed an awareness-raising video on the subject of abuse including spousal violence. The MOJ also sets “Protect Women’s Rights” as one of the priority targets of human rights awareness-raising activities and carries out various activities nationwide throughout the year.

Moreover, the MOJ has provided counseling on human rights issues of women at the counseling centers established in the Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide as well as by “Women’s Rights Hotline” counseling call service and “Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet”. When the MOJ becomes aware of a suspected human rights violation through such counseling, it investigates the case without delay and takes appropriate measures depending on the case.

Police also dealt with men and boys for preventing stalking offenses as follows;

①　Enhancement of Public Awareness on Stalking Behavior

In order to prevent stalking offenses against young people, the police made educational materials with illustrations such as pamphlets and DVDs that explain stalking damages for high school and college students. By using these materials, the police are hosting crime prevention classes as well as creating portal sites to disseminate information about stalking cases.

②　Psychiatric and Psychological Approaches to Stalkers

Since FY2014, the police have conducted research studies on psychiatric and psychological approaches to stalkers. Based on the results, from FY2016, the police have been advancing cooperation with regional psychiatrists, getting their advice on how to respond to perpetrators and the necessity of treatment or counseling and encouraging perpetrators to receive medical check.

（Among the stalking cases in 2016, 84% of perpetrators are male and 89% of victims are female.）

1. What are the challenges that your Government faces, at normative, institutional programme levels, in engaging men and boys in promoting and achieving gender equality, in particular efforts to challenge gender stereotypes and the negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that underlie and perpetuate violence against women and girls? Please elaborate on the nature of these challenges and the steps taken to address them.

(Answer)

Not applicable

1. Are women and girls, including women’s rights organizations involved in the efforts by your Government to engage men and boys in promoting and achieveing gender equality, in particular efforts to challenge gender stereotypes and the negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that underlie and perpetuate violence against women and girls?

(Answer)

Yes, as in the answer for the question one on training and awareness programmes provided by Cabinet Office, we invite women victims’ support organizations as instructors for educating and raising awareness programmes and training.

END