

**MISSION PERMANENTE DU JAPON**  
AUPRÈS DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES  
GENÈVE-SUISSE

EM/DLG/204

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the United Nations and, with reference to Note Verbale Ref.:RRDD/DESIB/METS/MS/EI/PT dated 10 February 2012, has the honour to transmit herewith, the response of the Government of Japan.

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 20 April 2012



Enclosure : mentioned

**OHCHR REGISTRY**

**24 APR 2012**

Recipients : **WPHRE**  
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OHCHR

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In accordance with the Questionnaire for the preparation of the OHCHR of the progress report on the implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, the Government of Japan is pleased to submit its response to the OHCHR's request.

**1. Overall national strategy for implementing the plan of action**

Based on "the Basic Plan for Human Rights Education and Encouragement" which was finalized in 2002 (and partly amended in 2011) according to the Act for the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Encouragement, the relevant ministries and agencies promote training for public officers whose jobs may involve human rights.

**2. Specific human rights education initiatives undertaken with respect to:**

**a. Higher education**

The Basic Plan for Human Rights Education and Encouragement urges universities and other institutions of higher learning to consider making efforts to put human rights education on the agenda when carrying out education in various fields including law education, and link human rights education with law classes, for both general and constitutional law. Some universities have established human rights education courses in their liberal arts programs.

**b. Teachers and educators**

Specialist and technical training in social education, including human rights, in addition to courses geared toward granting certification to social education supervisors, helps raise the level of education among local residents and helps form communities that can autonomously overcome challenges. Social education specialists, including librarians and social education supervisors, advise and instruct those providing social education on specialist and technical issues based on the Social Education Act, and are responsible for building a lifelong learning society.

**c. Civil Servants**

**[Civil servants in general]**

With regard to administrators, the National Personnel Authority (NPA) has been offering a curriculum concerning human rights in all forms of training implemented for national public officers, and has also been instructing each ministry and agency to improve its human rights education in training therein.

The Ministry of Justice holds human rights training seminars for the national public

officers of the central ministries and agencies twice a year, with the aim of enhancing their understanding and appreciation of human rights issues. In addition, the Ministry of Justice holds human rights leadership training seminars three times a year for officials engaged in duties for human rights awareness-raising activities in prefectures and municipalities, with the aim of providing the necessary knowledge for them to act as leaders.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organizes the lectures, targeting its own officials, particularly those newly recruited, on human rights issues and human rights diplomacy. Moreover, it offers courses on diplomacy and human rights to officials from other ministries who are assigned to Japanese overseas missions.

#### **[Local public employees]**

The Local Autonomy College provides high-level training to comprehensively cultivate the policy-making capabilities of local public employees who are expected to become senior officials. In such training courses, the Local Autonomy Colleges provides lectures on human rights issues.

#### **[Fire-fighting personnel]**

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency provides training and guidance on human rights to the fire-fighting personnel. This is for the purpose of reaffirming that awareness of human rights is fundamental for government officials and of arousing their consciousness of various human rights problems such as social discrimination issues, and the problems of the disabled, children and foreigners.

#### **[The education provided for new Coast Guard officials in the Japan Coast Guard Academy and the Japan Coast Guard School]**

The Japan Coast Guard (JCG) provides training courses on human rights to newly employed JCG officials in human rights at the JCG academy and school, and re-trains them after their graduation, in order to reinforce the right way for the JCG officials to follow with respect to human rights when carrying out their duties.

To be more specific, the JCG teaches through its education and training the relationship between Coast Guard administration and human rights, the principle of respect for human rights and the importance of administrative and judiciary procedures at lectures relating to law subjects such as the Constitution, administrative law,

criminal procedure law and in some classes relating to maritime criminal investigations.

#### **d. Law enforcement officials**

The Ministry of Justice provides lectures on international human rights treaties in training sessions that public prosecutors are obligated to attend at their time of appointment and at subsequent times specified according to years of work experience.

In order to treat inmates appropriately and effectively in accordance with laws and regulations, at the Training Institute for Correctional Personnel and its branches, training, such as lectures on the human rights of inmates based on the Constitution and other various human rights treaties, as well as training sessions adopting behavioral science approaches, are provided to officials including prison officers at correctional institutions, with a view to developing them respect for the human rights of inmates.

In addition, respective correctional institutions, including prisons, endeavor to promote human rights awareness in their officials through efforts such as in-house practical training, and training simulating the scenes of the officers' treatment of inmates.

For probation or parole officers and rehabilitation coordinators, lectures on human rights are provided in various forms during their training.

Lectures on respect for basic human rights, the current situation of human rights protection and matters relating to trafficking in persons have been incorporated into the training program for officers at the Immigration Bureau. These lectures are carried out depending on the number of years of service.

In addition, for those who are expected to become regional immigration officers, lectures on human rights are given for the purpose of deepening their knowledge related to human rights issues and contributing to forming appropriate methods of work.

Moreover, for the purpose of ensuring the full protection of victims of trafficking or domestic violence, lectures are provided during their training to clerical workers who are in charge of countering human trafficking and cases of domestic violence, concerning how to treat victims when recognizing victims of human trafficking in the training for.

Since the duties of police officers, particularly during criminal investigations, are closely related to human rights, the Police have established "Basic Codes of Professional

Ethics,” in its Rules on the Professional Ethics and Service of Police Officers (Rules of the National Public Safety Commission No. 1 of 2000), the main pillar of which is respect for human rights. Police officers are actively conducting human rights education by promoting ethics education as the top priority of overall police education.

For police officers who have been newly recruited or promoted, human rights education is provided in lectures on the Constitution of Japan, the Code of Civil Procedure or on professional ethics at the Police Academy. In cases of investigating ways of treating female victims of crimes, such as sexual crimes and domestic violence, they are taught to understand how to apply the necessary considerations to the victims.

Proper training programs are prepared for police officers who are in charge of criminal investigations, detention, or support for victims of crime at police academy training courses and workplace seminars held at police headquarters as well as police stations, so that they can acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to perform their duties properly taking into consideration the human rights of accused persons, detainees, or victims.

**e. Military personnel**

The Ministry of Defense provides those who will be or are already Self Defense Force uniformed personnel with proper education at the National Defense Academy, the National Defense Medical College, the National Institute for Defense Studies, the Joint Staff College, and the Schools for uniformed personnel for Ground, Maritime, and Air Self Defense Forces relating to the Geneva Conventions and other international human rights treaties to protect the human rights of captives in emergency situations.