

## 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS50)

### Agenda Item III: Empowering Women and Girls and Promoting Gender Equality

- First of all, we would like to show deep appreciation for the chairperson and secretariat who have been making great efforts to trying to summarize diverse opinions respecting each position of Open-Ended Working Group.
  
- We believe gender equality and women's empowerment are essential in food security. In long history, women tend to be forced to stay in the weakest position bearing with low-paid or unpaid labor while girls' education is sometimes considered less priority. Currently, their situation could be even worse in this food crisis. So, we believe we should not easily give up the dialogue on gender issues, and Japan supports the continuing the discussion of Voluntary Guideline on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition.
  
- In Japan, in agriculture, forestry and fishery's sectors, we are now in the process of promoting women's wider involvement in policy and decision making. And also, we are developing more comfortable and sustainable working environment where

women can show their ability much easier. Japan considers women as important labor force in agriculture, forestry and fishery as well as other industries, and we expect women's further success in these areas. In this purpose, Japan defined 10th of March as Japanese Day of Rural Women, holding various special events of promoting empowerment of women and girls and strengthen rural women's network.

- Through these actions and activities, Japan will continue making efforts to empower women and girls in context of food security and nutrition.