

5/5 P.M.

JAPAN

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(and the International Abolitionist Federation)

My delegation would like to make some brief comments on the remarks made by the INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT which referred to the so-called "comfort women" during World War II.

The Government of Japan acknowledges that the Japanese Imperial Army was involved in the matter of "comfort women". Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa acknowledged it and expressed his sincere apology and remorse during his visit to the Republic of Korea last January. Our people fully share his sentiment.

As the representative of Japan stated at the Human Rights Commission, and I repeat it here now, that

(with regard to the question of compensation towards these people, judicial process is under way concerning claims from individuals for compensation. Therefore, the Government of Japan is not in a position to make any comment on this question at this juncture, but it will devote itself to the further investigation of the matter.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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