PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Written Statement by Japanese Delegation at the Meeting of the Fourth Committee 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Agenda Item 50: Effects of Atomic Radiation New York, 15 October 2020

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to thank you for your chairmanship of the Committee during the 75th session of the General Assembly, particularly with regards to this important agenda item "Effects of atomic radiation."

Japan commends the continued work by The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) to broaden the knowledge and deepen the understanding of the levels, effects and risks of exposure to ionizing radiation, based on its independence and scientific evidence.

Though some programs were postponed by COVID-19, the Scientific Committee plays a vital role in providing scientific assessments and reports on the effects of exposure to ionizing radiation. The work of the Committee helps us evaluate radiation risks and establish radiation protections and safety standards from which we all benefit.

Japan has long been deeply committed to nuclear safety, even more so following the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in 2011.

In light of the importance of disseminating the findings of UNSCEAR to the wider public, we look forward to the update of the UNSCEAR 2013 Report on the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the accident. We believe the publication of the report in the year marking the tenth anniversary of the accident will promote international understanding of the accident and will contribute to the recovery of Fukushima and Japan.

Japan would like to once again underscore the importance of the UNSCEAR's contributions to deepening the understanding of the effects of ionizing radiation. In concluding, we would like to reaffirm Japan's continued commitment and support to UNSCEAR's work going forward.

Thank you.