



*Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations*

866 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017 Phone: (212) 223-4300 · www.un.int/japan/

**Statement by Dr. Nobuko Kurosaki  
Alternate Representative of Japan**

**Item 56(a): Advancement of women**

**Item 56(b): Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on  
Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly**

**Third Committee**

**63rd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations**

**New York**

**13 October 2008**

Mr. Chairperson,

Japan remains strongly convinced that progress for women is progress for all, and that the principles contained in the internationally agreed instruments, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, must be observed as the basis for action. To that end, my government has been actively engaged at both the national and international levels in promoting a gender-equal society. Allow me to share some of Japan's experiences, especially in its efforts to eliminate violence against women, achieve gender equality and advance the status of women in society.

Mr. Chairperson,

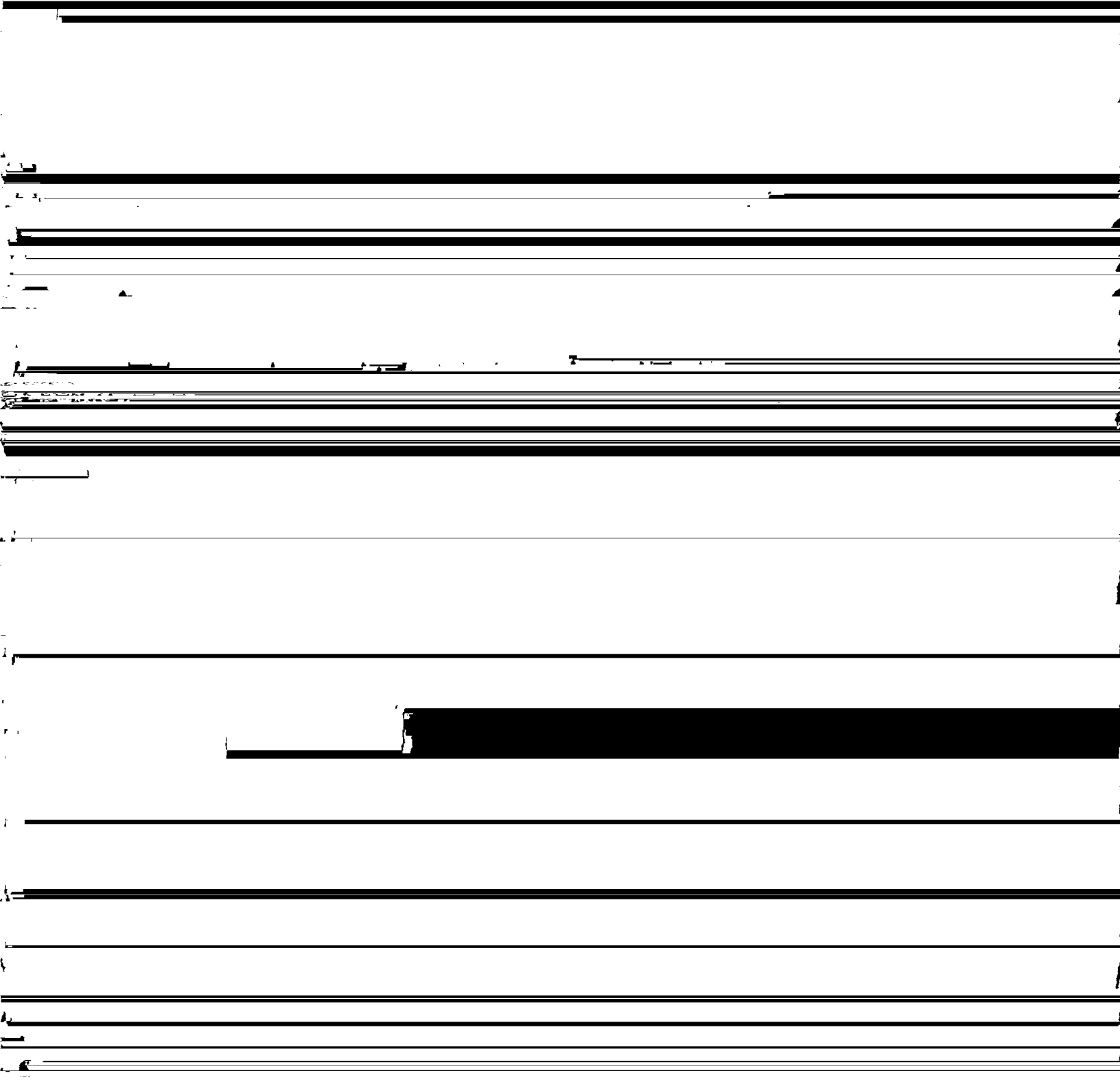
Japan has put much effort into fighting the problem of violence against women, which is a serious violation of human rights. For example, Japan recently amended the Act on the

Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims, which came into force in January 2008. The revised law expands the scope of protection for victims such as



and the international community needs to tackle this issue in a comprehensive and concerted manner. We highly commend the Security Council for reaffirming its political commitment in this area by adopting its resolution 1820 in June this year following its first adoption in 2000 of SCR 1325 on women, peace and security. We are pleased that the new resolution calls on the international community to take concrete actions. As a demonstration of its strong support, Japan joined co-sponsor of the resolution together with 51 other countries.

To prevent conflicts from recurring in post-conflict situations, it is important that women and men participate as equals in the decision-making of negotiation of peace agreements, and



lives and their social activities by strengthening the social infrastructure that supports child-raising, for example, through child-care services.

To realize that goal, in late 2007 the Council of Executives of Public and private Sectors formulated the Charter for a Work-Life Balance and the Action Policy for Promoting Work-Life Balance with specific numerical targets. We set 10 percent as the targeted rate for