Mr. Chair,

Please allow me to start by congratulating the members of the bureau and thanking the UNODC.

As the host of the Fourteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, I wish to reiterate our utmost gratitude to all participants and the UNODC for the successful outcome.

Mr. Chair,

This Commission comes at a critically important juncture.

Firstly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic,
this is the first time we are able to convene a full-fledged session since 2019. While numerous challenges have arisen due to the pandemic, for example in prison settings or the changes in the modus operandi of some crimes, our deliberations must generate clear, focused messages that are actionable and make a difference.

Secondly, this Commission marks the beginning of the follow-up to the Kyoto Congress, most importantly the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration. The Kyoto Declaration addresses many pertinent issues of our time and there is no “one-size fits all” approach to its implementation. What is important is that we implement the commitments contained therein in accordance with our priorities
and legal systems. In this regard, we encourage all delegates to read the Kyoto Declaration once again. We are confident that you will find useful guidance to promote crime prevention and criminal justice efforts.

Japan, for its part, has tabled two resolutions, L5 and L6, to follow-up on the Kyoto Declaration.

Resolution L5 requests the CCPCJ to convene intersessional thematic discussions that will allow exchange of best practices and experience on how the Kyoto Declaration can be implemented. We hope that the CCPCJ, in close consultation with all Member States, will develop meaningful thematic discussions.

Resolution L6 proposes the creation of
new UN model strategies on reducing reoffending. In this connection, I wish to draw your attention to the side-event our government will organize tomorrow morning 9am Vienna time, in which high-level speakers including our Justice Minister Ms. KAMIKAWA will attend.

Mr. Chair,

Let me conclude by reaffirming our unwavering support to the work of the Commission and the UNODC, and our commitment to continue working with all delegations. I thank you.