Thank you, Madam Chair.

At the outset, the delegation of Japan would like to express its gratitude to the Chair, the vice-chairs, and the Secretariat of the SCCR for your continuous efforts toward the success of the SCCR sessions.

We consider the protection of broadcasting organizations to be an important and high-priority agenda item.

In this regard, the last SCCR had meaningful face-to-face discussions within a lot of experts from various countries, and made some progress on the Broadcasting Treaty although the time of substantive discussions was limited.

Japan hopes more time for substantive discussions on this agenda item, and welcomes the idea of minimizing the process of the general statements, as is planned for the SCCR 44.

Concerning Limitations and Exceptions, sharing facts and experiences of each Member State would be very useful, including, not only advanced good practices, but also real needs and practical challenges in the context of implementation of copyright legal frameworks. This kind of information exchange would deepen mutual understanding and benefit more Member States.

Last but not least, we would like to contribute to the discussions in a constructive manner at the SCCR.

Thank you, Madam Chair.