

December 12, 2022

H/LD/WG/11 JPAA Statement

As this is our first time to take the floor in this meeting, we would like to start by congratulating Mr. (or Madame) chair on your appointment. We also greatly appreciate the efforts and dedication shown by the Secretariats in compiling information and documents in order to move forward the discussion on various important issues.

JPAA would like to add some comments to the results of the Study on the Availability and Usability of Translation Technologies from the user perspective. JPAA agrees entirely with the view that any compromise on the quality of translation would jeopardize the rights of users. Furthermore, Japanese users are seriously concerned that introduction of new languages would increase costs amid the current situation where the Hague System has difficulties to cope with, as discussed at the 8th session of this working group in the document H/LD/WG/8/4 titled Financial Sustainability of the Hague System; Possible Revision of the Schedule of Fees, and mentioned in the document H/LD/WG/11/INF/1 REV. Further increase of the fees due to the introduction of the new languages would eventually reduce the system's advantages for users and adversely affect its existence. We therefore expect the Working Group to prudentially discuss this matter.