**ENGLISH** only

## Statement by Ambassador Makoto TAKETOSHI, Head of Mission, Embassy of Japan in Austria, at the 986<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Permanent Council on the Situation in Ukraine, held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014

Thank you, Chairperson.

Japan's Foreign Minister issued the statement on the Situation in the Crimean Peninsula in Ukraine yesterday, and Japan is closely monitoring the situation in Ukraine.

I would like to reiterate main points of the G7 Leaders Statement on the Situation in Ukraine and the Statement by G-7 Finance Ministers on Economic Support for Ukraine issued today, in which Japan took part.

We support Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and its right to choose its own future, and commit ourselves to support Ukraine in its efforts to restore unity, stability and political and economic health to the country.

We condemn the Russian Federation's clear violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

We welcome the efforts of the OSCE, including the possible international observation mission.

In concluding, I appreciate your efforts as the Chairman-in-Office, Ambassador Greminger. Japan will continue to attach great importance on the relationship with the OSCE.

Thank you, Chairperson.