



**STATEMENT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION DURING THE REVIEW
OF INDONESIA**

13TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW WORKING GROUP

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Madame President,

The South African delegation wishes to welcome the foreign minister and delegation of Indonesia and extend our congratulations on the presentation of a comprehensive and informative national report. We appreciate that the national report clearly sets out the progress made on the implementation of the accepted recommendations from the first cycle as well as the challenges involved in completely implementing certain of these recommendations taking into account diversity and the large amount of administrative levels.

South Africa commends the prioritizing of the right to education and the objective of meeting the education related MDG. It is especially welcomed that special attention is being paid to ensuring that the right to education is ensured for poor children and those living in rural areas. South Africa recommends that the government of Indonesia continue to develop education policies aimed at ensuring access to education for all, especially the poor and those living in rural areas.

The national report further sets out the situation related to freedom of religion in Indonesia and both the challenges and initiatives taken by the government to ensure religious harmony within the diverse population of the country. My delegation would appreciate further information on the effectiveness of steps taken to protect the rights of religious minorities and what further steps the government plans to take in this regard.

Finally we commend Indonesia for their continuous inspiration of the Bandung spirit throughout it's engagement in the processes of the Human Rights Council, it's solidarity with Africa and especially it's continued support to the anti-racism agenda within the Council.

I thank you.