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**Universal Periodic Review of MOROCCO, 22 May 2012
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia welcomes the delegation of Morocco to the 13th session of the UPR and thanks them for the presentation of the national report.

Estonia commends the government of Morocco for ratifying the First Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and for introducing a National Plan of Action in the area of democracy and human rights. We encourage the government of Morocco to continue making efforts to meet its international commitments on civil and political rights. We recommend revising the press code and other relevant legislation so that they would allow the enjoyment of freedom of information in line with international standards.

We note positively that Morocco has made progress in promoting women's rights and welcome the fact that Morocco has withdrawn its reservations on two articles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. We remain, however, concerned that discrimination against women still exists in law and practice. We recommend that Morocco bring its legal system in line with its Constitution by implementing measures that guarantee gender equality and adopting legislation guaranteeing women effective remedies against violence.

Finally, we recommend that Morocco ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Thank you.