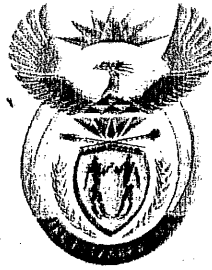


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SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

STATEMENT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION DURING THE 13TH SESSION OF
THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW WORKING GROUP

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO
22 MAY 2012

Madame President,

The South African delegation wishes to warmly welcome the delegation from the Kingdom of Morocco and express our appreciation for the presentation of the national report. The extensive consultative process which went into its preparation is truly commendable and an example to be followed.

The national report outlines the steps taken by the government to combat poverty and social exclusion. These include programmes under the National Human Development Initiative and the Green Morocco plan. The large investment in programmes aimed at combatting poverty is extremely positive and the outcomes thus far shows promising results which are contributing to uplifting the rural communities.

South Africa particularly commends the excellent results achieved in the provision of social housing and the construction of 817 000 units by the end of 2011. The emphasis on the improving the living conditions of poor, including through the clearing of slums, will contribute to the upliftment of these communities.

South Africa would like to present the following recommendations for the consideration of the delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco:

1. Continue the prioritization of initiatives to combat poverty and the ensure programmes aimed at poverty reduction are adequately funded;
2. Continue ^{the} provision of social housing to the rural communities with the aim to improve the living conditions.

Finally Madame President, we wish to express our delegation's appreciation for Morocco's support on the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and in particular, its support during the 10th Year Commemorative Event of the Adoption of the DDPA, held at the General Assembly on 22 September last year.

I thank you