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Intervention of Bangladesh on UPR of South Africa

Thank you Mr. Vice-president,

Let me join others in welcoming and appreciating the Honorable Mr. Andries Nel, MP, leader of the South African delegation for the exhaustive presentation and subsequent responses. South Africa has secured a unique position in the world with its heroic struggle against the apartheid through a peaceful means.

We welcome the initiatives of the South African government to implement most of the recommendations made during its first cycle of review and also for those that are being implemented. We commend the government for identifying education, health and food security among the 5 national priorities. We also commend the programmes and policies like the national housing programme, the social grants, broadening of access to basic education and in the health sector and the establishment of the National planning commission.

Despite impressive progresses, made thus far, there remain challenges. The deep rooted social division and economic inequality left to the legacy of colonial and apartheid era impacts its efforts to build the country on a true foundation of human rights.

We are pleased that the government of South Africa has acknowledged the difficulty it is faced with in the practical making of all human rights a reality for all its citizen. We are also happy to note that the government of South Africa has taken these challenges seriously. We believe with these recognitions and the commitments exhibited by the South African government, the country will move ahead in fulfilling the aspirations of its population.
