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**Statement by Malaysia
Review of Tunisia
13th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
21 May – 4 June 2012**

Thank you Madam President,

My delegation joins others in welcoming the Tunisian delegation, led by H.E. MR. SAMIR DILOU and we thank the delegation for their comprehensive and detailed presentation.

Madam President,

2. My delegation wishes to congratulate the Government of Tunisia for the various positive developments in the area of promotion and protection of human rights following the popular revolution in the country in early 2011. Aside from the new ratifications of a number of international conventions, we note that Tunisia has taken positive steps to regulate the judiciary system in the country. We are also encouraged to note that the Government has taken serious measures to address economic, social and cultural rights in order to ensure that all parts of the country and population including the poorest and most vulnerable groups could benefit from the country's economic growth.

3. We also note, however that Tunisia continues to face significant challenges in terms of freedom of thought, expression and peaceful demonstrations. In addition, its efforts to combat social disparities and development imbalance between certain parts of the country and population are severely affected by recession and other economic problems.

Madam President,

4. My delegation would like to propose the following recommendations for the consideration of Tunisia:

4.1 To strengthen policies and measures aimed at the economic empowering of rural population and ensuring their access to health-care services, education and social services;

4.2 To step up measures to reform of the judicial system including by expediting efforts to draft new legal provision to ensure the real independence of the judiciary in order to protect the rights and freedoms of the individuals

I thank you, Madam President.

**GENEVA
22 May 2012**