Italian intervention

UPR - ARGENTINA

(22/10/2012)

Thank you, Madame President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Argentina. We welcome, in particular, the significant progresses made by Argentina in prosecuting military and police personnel for enforced disappearances, killings and torture during the last military dictatorship. Italy has traditionally co-sponsored the Argentinean resolution on the right to truth and at the beginning of this month the Italian Undersecretary of State Dassù has handed over documentation regarding desaparecidos of Italian origin, or with dual nationality, during those dark years, in the belief that there could be no justice and reconciliation without memory. Italy is also exploring possibilities of trilateral cooperation in the field of human rights, together with Argentina and third countries.

We would like to touch on few issues. Many observers, including a number of treaty bodies, are concerned by harsh detention conditions, prison overcrowding, abuse by guards, inmate violence, especially in provinces. We take note of the measures already undertaken by the authorities and we encourage Argentina to continue to improve prisons' conditions, paying in particular attention to the rights of the most vulnerable, such as women and children.

There are reports of violence and abuses by the police, directly affecting women, children, migrants and people living in poverty. We would invite the Argentinean delegation to elaborate further on the issue, detailing possible initiatives in this domain, also on the basis of the second phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education that deals, inter alia, with law enforcement officials.

Finally, Madame President, what measures does Argentina envisage for a better implementation of the existing legal framework against trafficking in human beings?

I thank you, Madame President.

Roberto Nocella Counsellor