



STATEMENT  
BY  
THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA  
AT 14<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF BENIN  
22 OCTOBER- 5 NOVEMBER 2012

---

Ethiopia welcomes the delegation of Benin ~~led by~~...

We welcome the balanced and comprehensive report of the Government of Benin.

We note with appreciation the progress made by the Government in gender equality and equity, the promotion and empowerment of women especially in rural areas, access to health care and the gradual introduction of free education.

It is also highly encouraging to see the ongoing process and initiative of the Government of Benin to amend the constitution of the country to align it with international human rights obligations of the country, recommendations of United Nations treaty bodies and the African Union as well as guidelines of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) *inter alia*.

Finally, we call the international community to extend the necessary technical and capacity building assistance to Benin, as highlighted in the national report of the country.

**Thank you**