

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
14TH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON UPR
UPR OF GABON, 23 OCTOBER 2012

STATEMENT BY NIGERIA DELIVERED BY MR. MUHAMMED LAMIN SHEHU, PERMANENT
MISSION OF NIGERIA TO UNOG

Madame President,

We would like to extend a warm welcome the delegation of Gabon and thank the Minister of Justice for the presentation of their national UPR report.

The Nigerian delegation commends the government and people of Gabon for the effort put into the preparation of this report. We are encouraged to know that the report was prepared through a meticulous and transparent process involving a broad-based and inclusive effort that took into consideration the views of relevant stakeholders, including representatives of NGOs and civil society organisations.

We note with satisfaction the various efforts and policies the Gabonese government has put in place to improve the quality of life of all Gabonese citizens and protect their fundamental freedoms and rights. Particularly noteworthy are the achievements in the fields of education, health, rights of women and children, and persons with disabilities, to mention a few.

Madam President,

The Nigerian delegation would like to draw the attention of the Gabonese authorities to the issue of the “humiliating treatment” meted against some refugees arrested by Gabonese law enforcement agents in 2011, as reported by UNHCR. We urge the Gabonese authorities to do more to protect the rights of migrants and refugees in all circumstances.

Finally, Madame President, we encourage the government of Gabon to continue to do whatever is necessary to promote and protect the fundamental freedoms and human rights of all its citizens.

I thank you.
