

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

STATEMENT BY NIGERIA DELIVERED BY MR. KAYODE LARO, PERMANENT MISSION OF
NIGERIA TO UNOG

Madame President,

Nigeria warmly welcomes the delegation of Ghana and thanks the Deputy Minister of Justice for the presentation of their national UPR report.

We commend the government and people of Ghana for the effort put into the preparation of this report. We note, with satisfaction, that the report was prepared through a 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.

The Nigerian delegation commends the government of Ghana for the policies it has put in place to enable Ghanaians enjoy their right to health. We encourage the Ghanaian government to re-double their efforts in ensuring balanced coverage of the National Health Insurance Scheme.

We acknowledge, in particular, the efforts of the Ghanaian authorities in the fight against HIV/AIDS. We note and commend the Ghana Aids Commission for its leadership in this fight. We congratulate Ghana for the reduction in the national adult HIV prevalence rate and among pregnant women attending ante-natal care.

We commend Ghana for its efforts to enhance access to justice particularly for the poor and vulnerable, especially prisoners. We note that this has led to an increase in the release of remand prisoners who have out-stayed their remand warrants.

We welcome the efforts of the government in engaging traditional leaders in the eradication of negative cultural practices. We hope that this strategy will yield the desired result.

We commend the government of Ghana for its efforts to combat gender-based violence through the Domestic Violence Act and the creation of a Domestic Violence Secretariat under the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs to give institutional support to the Act.

Madame President,

We would like conclude by encouraging the government of Ghana to continue to do all within its power to promote and protect the fundamental freedoms and human rights of the good people of Ghana.

I thank you.
