



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
14th Session

Pakistan
Intervention of the Arab Republic of Egypt

30 October 2012

Madame President,

My delegation welcomes H.E. Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, and her accompanying delegation and appreciates the elaborate presentation of the national report.

Egypt commends Pakistan's efforts to implement the recommendations it accepted during the UPR 1st cycle.

We are encouraged by recent constitutional amendments and look forward to their implementation. We welcome the establishment of the national commission for human rights, and take positive note of steps taken to strengthen the national commission on the status of women.

We are encouraged by Pakistan's ratification of the majority of core international human rights instruments, notably the two international covenants. We would like further clarification on steps taken to align national legislation with recently ratified treaties.

We recognise the challenges as well as the legislative and institutional measures taken in the field of women's and children's rights.

We also share the concerns over the devastating impacts of extremism and intolerance on the security and social fabric of societies and recognise the challenges Pakistan faces in this domain.

Finally, we would like to recommend the following to the Pakistani government:

1. to dedicate sufficient resources to national human rights institutions to enhance their effective functioning and independence;

2. to ensure, including through public awareness campaigns, the reporting and investigation of cases of violence against women; and to further tighten measures addressing sexual abuse and exploitation of children;
3. to continue and consolidate efforts aimed at promoting dialogue, tolerance and social cohesion.

I thank you.