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**United Nations Human Rights Council
14th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 30 October 2012

**German questions and recommendations to
Pakistan**

Ambassador Hanns H. Schumacher

Madam President,

Germany appreciates the government of Pakistan's commitment to improve the human rights situation. However, Germany is concerned about remaining human rights violations.

The situation of religious minorities and other excluded groups remains one of the pressing issues, also with regard to the upcoming elections.

Germany recommends

- **to establish effective safeguards against the abuse and discriminatory use of blasphemy legislation**
- **to take preventive and punitive measures against instigation of religious hatred**
- **to review public school curricula in order to eliminate prejudice against religious and other minorities**
- **to actively support programs strengthening religious freedom and tolerance especially in the run-up to the elections 2013.**

Regarding the rights of women, substantive legislative improvements have been achieved since the last review. **Germany recommends to effectively implement the recent legislation on strengthening women rights and to create and adequately fund the National Commission on the Status of Women.**

Germany recommends taking effective measures against enforced disappearances by strengthening the Commission of Inquiry on Forced Disappearances and expanding their mandate to all Security Agencies.

I thank you.