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Bhriagu Dhungana

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Statement by the delegation of Nepal, at an interactive dialogue with the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan during the 14th session of the UPR Working Group, 30 October 2012

Madam President,

Nepal welcomes the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the UPR led by Her Excellency Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, and congratulates her for the comprehensive presentation of the national report that highlights the progress made in human rights since 2008 and gives an update on the implementation of recommendations accepted by Pakistan during its first UPR.

We appreciate the efforts of Pakistan in promoting and protecting human rights through various institutional and legislative measures. Nepal takes note with satisfaction that 2008–2012 has been the most active period of legislation-making on human rights in the history of Pakistan with a number of bills passed including on the creation of the National Commission for Human Rights and strengthening of the National Commission on the Status of Women.

Pakistan's progress in enhancing the political participation of women and taking legal and administrative measures to provide protection to them is noteworthy. Its continuous efforts in overcoming persistent socio-economic challenges remain encouraging.

While appreciating the progress made on various fronts, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations for the consideration of the delegation of Pakistan:

1. Continue efforts in strengthening national human rights mechanisms.
2. Continue working for the welfare of children, women and persons with disabilities.

Thank you.