

Statement of the Kingdom of Bahrain
UPR 14th Session- Review on Switzerland
29th October 2012

Thank you Madam President,

Bahrain welcomes the delegation of Switzerland to the second cycle of the UPR, and would like to thank them for their well-prepared presentation.

Madam President,

We commend the ongoing efforts of the Swiss government to promote and protect Human Rights, at the national and international levels, and appreciate all the developments conducted on policies and measures in the past years. However, many challenges remain to be tackled in an effective and constructive manner.

Madam President,

Bahrain welcomes the creation of the Bilateral Task Force between Switzerland and Romania; however, trafficking in persons still persists and remains a huge challenge in Switzerland. My delegation, therefore, urges the Swiss government to develop a national strategy to combat trafficking and to take necessary measures to protect and provide assistance to trafficking victims.

The Human Rights Committee, CAT and CEDAW have expressed concerns about the absence of comprehensive legislation as well as the lack of a specific provision in the Criminal Code to address violence against women, including domestic violence. My delegation would like to know the measures taken by Switzerland in terms of redress and protection.

Finally, Bahrain recommends that Switzerland increase efforts to implement all the recommendations it had committed to during its previous UPR.

Thank you Madam President..