

1 minute 26 seconds-44

(Check against delivery)

Bangladesh intervention on the UPR of Switzerland

Merci Madame la Président. Ma délégation souhaite la bienvenue à la délégation de la Suisse.

Madam President,

We appreciate Switzerland for hosting a large number of International and UN bodies including the Human Rights Council. We feel that a country as diverse as Switzerland assumes particular responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights including the right to development. We are therefore, happy to note that Switzerland considers increasing its ODA as a moral and political commitment.

However, we have noted that several treaty bodies expressed concern over a multitude of issues, including over an increase of alleged excessive use of force or other maltreatment by the police, mainly against asylum seekers, migrants and persons of African origin; on a ban on minarets that amounts to an undue restriction of the freedom to manifest one's religion; on violence against women; on high unemployment rates among migrants and women; on discrimination against Travelers, including Yenish, Sinti and Roma.

In view of the above, we **recommend** that Switzerland, -

1. increases the level of its contribution of official development assistance, to reach at least the threshold of 0.7 per cent, *of GNP*
2. adopts measures to reduce gender inequality in the labour market;
3. addresses the situation of migrants, and Travelers; and
4. undertakes an impact assessment on the possible consequences of its foreign trade policies and investment agreements on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by the population of its partner countries.

Thank you Madam.
