

14th Session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Switzerland**Statement by Ambassador Daw Penjo, Permanent Representative
of the Kingdom of Bhutan on 29th October 2012.**

Madam President,

My delegation joins the previous speakers in welcoming H. E. Didier Burkhalter, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland to the 14th Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks him for the detailed presentation of their National Report.

Four years ago, Switzerland engaged in an open and successful review of the human rights situation in the country. A number of recommendations were made during the review, most of which were accepted by Switzerland, reflecting its commitment to promote and protect human rights of its citizens. We thank the delegation of Switzerland for its comprehensive presentation today of the implementation status of those recommendations.

Bhutan applauds the many efforts undertaken by the Government of Switzerland in fulfilling its human rights obligations. In this regard, establishment of the Swiss Resource Centre for Human Rights and accession to international human rights instruments such as the OP-CAT and CEDAW are highly commendable.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to recommend that Switzerland expedite its accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other outstanding human rights treaties, particularly those that it had committed to during the last UPR.

I thank you, Madam President.