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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
14TH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON UPR  
UPR OF ZAMBIA, 30 OCTOBER 2012

STATEMENT BY NIGERIA DELIVERED BY KAYODE LARO, PERMANENT MISSION OF  
NIGERIA TO UNOG

Madam President,

Nigeria warmly welcomes the delegation of Zambia and thanks them for the presentation of their national UPR report.

Nigeria notes with satisfaction, the efforts of the Government of Zambia to improve the quality of life of the people of Zambia, especially those living in rural areas. We urge Zambia to continue to work toward the empowerment of its citizens, especially the youth and women.

Nigeria welcomes the release of a draft Constitution in April 2012 and the launching of a consultative process by the Technical Committee. We are encouraged by the fact the draft aims to protect a broader array of covering economic, social and cultural rights.

Nigeria commends Zambia for its efforts in the fight against human trafficking and welcomes the enactment of the 2008 Anti Human Trafficking Act.

We also commend Zambia for enacting the Education Act of 2011 which provides a legislative basis for the implementation of the Free Basic Education Policy under which Zambian children are enjoying the right to free basic education. Nigeria sees this as a positive step in laying the foundations for improving human development in Zambia.

Nigeria acknowledges the efforts of Zambia in combating corruption with the adoption of the Anti-Corruption Policy. It is our hope that this would foster a climate of good governance which, in turn, would enhance development and progress in the country.

Finally, Madam President, Nigeria notes that despite its numerous achievements in improving the human rights situation in Zambia, various challenges still remain. We therefore urge the international community to reach out and support Zambia in the areas identified in their UPR national report.

I thank you.

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