

**Statement by Romania
Working Group on UPR
- examination of Zambia – October 30, 2012 -**

Madam President,

The delegation of Romania would like to thank the delegation of the Republic of Zambia for the presentation of its report in the second cycle of the UPR.

We acknowledged the progress represented by the draft Constitution released to the public in April this year, which gives a special importance to human rights, enhancing the rights of women, the rights of the child, the elderly and persons with disabilities. In our view, this measure, together with the adoption of several laws in the field of human rights (such as the revised law on education of 2011) and the launch of a national plan on human rights for the period 2010-2020, demonstrate that the Government of the Republic of Zambia is working towards complying with its human rights obligations.

At the same time, we regret the persistence of problems such as the discrimination of women both in law and in practice and the fact that the Republic of Zambia did not ratify the Protocols to the Convention on the rights of the child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

We recommend the Government of the Republic of Zambia to enact measures concerning women's and children's rights, with a view to solving the existing problems in these fields.

Finally, since the Constitution of the Republic of Zambia still allows for the death penalty, we would like to recommend the Government to consider its abolition.

Thank you, Madam President.