

Check against delivery

Italian intervention

**UPR – Bahamas
(23 /01/2013)**

Thank you, Mister President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished members of the delegation of the Bahamas.

We are particularly pleased to learn that education receives a large percentage of the national budget. We commend the Bahamas for this effort and **recommend** to continue devoting significant resources in education, with particular consideration to human rights.

We appreciate the de facto moratorium on executions since 2000. Italy believes that the death penalty is inhuman and a degradation of human dignity. We are strongly convinced that even public opinion cannot change the intrinsic nature of this cruel and ineffective punishment. Therefore, encouraging a revision of the stance taken in the previous review, Italy **recommends** the Bahamas to promote the reform of its legislation on death penalty in order to restrict its scope with a view to abolishing this cruel punishment.

We are aware of the difficulties that a country may come across in dealing with large migration flows. In this regard, we would be glad to know:

- (further) details on the current policy on the treatment of the asylum-seekers, especially with regard to Haitian Nationals and the principle of confidentiality; and
- the measures that the Bahamas intend to take to strengthen the prevention of abuses on illegal immigrants in detention and assure the punishment of the perpetrators of such abuses.

Taking note of the deficiencies of the Fox Hill Prison, as well as the financial constraints, Italy would like to receive additional information about the next steps envisaged to improve the conditions of the prison and the situation of the detainees.

While expressing strong appreciation for the decision to withdraw the reservation on article 16 of CEDAW and for the progress in the Gender Inequality Index, Italy **recommends** that the Bahamas adopt further measures aiming at addressing the situation of discrimination between man and women and to eradicate negative stereotypes. Italy applauds the Bahamas commitment to contrast violence against women and, following-up on the previous review, **recommends** that further efforts be deployed in order to prevent and punish episodes of abuses and violence, in particular domestic violence.

I thank you, Mister President