

Hungary's Statement on Barbados, UPR 15th Session, 25 January 2013
(Time available: 2:00, word count: 200)

Mr. President,

Hungary welcomes the distinguished delegation of Barbados and would like to commend the Government for the good cooperation offered to the High Commissioner during her visit last April. Building on this collaboration we **recommend** Barbados to extend a standing invitation to all special procedures of this Council.

Hungary welcomes that Barbados is firmly committed to pursuing a policy of zero tolerance regarding all forms of violence against women and children. To implement the suggestions of the reform committee in this regard, we **recommend** Barbados to gradually form ~~the~~ special police intervention units with the inclusion of female personnel qualified in handling domestic violence cases.

We highly appreciate that the Government has not carried out an execution in almost 30 years which is a clear indication of the readiness of Barbados to formally reinforcing the existing de facto moratoria with legislative steps. Similarly, we welcome the commitment of the Government to abolish the current mandatory death sentence system, expressed during the recent visit of the High Commissioner. Therefore we would **recommend** to implement this commitment as well as to commute all death sentences to terms of imprisonment before the next UPR review.

Hungary notes with satisfaction that the Constitution specifically prohibits torture and inhuman or degrading punishment. That is why it is particularly disturbing that - according to sources - unprofessional conduct, beatings and assault is common by the police. To effectively combat this situation we **recommend** Barbados to ratify the CAT and its Optional Protocol. In addition could the distinguished delegation explain why the article of the 1994 Evidence Act, which provides for video recording and surveillance in police custody, hasn't been implemented so far?

Thank you Mr. President.