



Statement by Hungary on Burundi, UPR Session 15, 24 January 2013

Mr. President,

Hungary warmly welcomes Burundi to this UPR and notes with satisfaction that it has made legislative efforts to strengthen the protection of human rights and has created a National Independent Human Rights Commission.

My delegation is concerned, however, that despite Burundi's commitment to fight impunity, perpetrators of political killings and torture remain unpunished. **We recommend** that all extra-judicial executions and torture committed by security services are promptly and fully investigated by judicial authorities and that those responsible are prosecuted, and that the government ensure publication of the reports of all national commissions of inquiry set up to investigate arbitrary executions.

Hungary recognizes Burundi's efforts in combatting violence against children and woman, by providing a clear definition of rape and by criminalizing sexual harassment. Still, Hungary is concerned by the continued high incidence of rape and sexual violence, both domestically and in the school environment, and the apparent lack of full investigation and prosecution of perpetrators. **My delegation recommends** that the government pass legislation to address sexual and gender based violence and ensure its full application, among others by providing the required budgetary allocations for legal and psychological assistance to victims.

Also, we regret that despite several 2008 UPR recommendations, the new penal code penalizes same sex relations with imprisonment, thus violating the right to privacy and freedom from discrimination, as enshrined in Burundi's constitution and international treaty commitments. **Hungary recommends** that Burundi revoke Art 567 from the Penal Code and remove any discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation from all other laws and policies.

Finally, Hungary believes that a close cooperation with the OHCHR will benefit Burundi in improving human rights on the ground and **recommend** that Burundi extend a standing invitation to all mandate holders.

Thank you, Mr. President