

UPR 15 – France – 21 January 2013

STATEMENT by BULGARIA

*H. E. Ambassador
J. Piperkov*

Thank you, Mr. President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of France, headed by
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We would like to congratulate France for its comprehensive second UPR report and for the manner in which the report was prepared at the national level with the active participation of NGO representatives and civil society stakeholders.

We commend the Government of France for the measures taken to accelerate the integration in society of persons belonging to minority groups, Roma in particular. In this context we would like to express confidence that France's public policies and initiatives towards members of minorities, especially Roma, more completely will be brought in line with the international human rights requirements.

Bulgaria appreciates the active role played by the French authorities in recent years to create an attitude of overall condemnation and rejection towards acts of xenophobia and anti-Semitism. Meanwhile we note some reported cases of intolerance, involving adolescents in particular, against persons belonging to minorities, mostly of Roma and Jewish origin. In view of these developments we would like to ask the following question:

Could the delegation of France briefly share some good practices of its authorities to address the cases of intolerance against persons belonging to minorities?

Thank you.