



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

The 15th Session of the UPR Working Group
Review of France
Geneva, 21 January, 2013

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Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea welcomes the strong efforts made by the French Government to promote and protect human rights since its first UPR.

The Republic of Korea would like to commend the French Government's concrete actions to ensure gender equality through initiatives such as the creation of the Ministry of Women's Rights and the implementation of national action plans aimed at protecting women against violence.

Concerning efforts made by the French Government to prevent racial discrimination, we would like to praise its adoption of the *National Action Plan against Racism and Antisemitism* for 2012-14. At the same time, noting that the French National Consultative Commission of Human Rights pointed out in its 2010 report that racist and xenophobic political speeches have increased since 2008, we expect the French Government will take more concrete measures to curb this trend through due implementation of the adopted *Action Plan*.

Encouraging its continued strong works in these areas, we would like to offer the two following recommendations:

First, noting the concerns raised by treaty bodies and NGOs on the situations of the Roma people, **we recommend that the French Government introduce more careful approaches to the questions related to their being moved from their camps as well as further efforts for their integration into the French society.**

Second, taking note of the relatively high suicide rate in French prisons and the 2012 report of the Council of Europe's Committee (CPT), **we recommend that the French Government continue to strengthen regulation of the penitentiary facilities to fully ensure the rights of and conditions for detained persons.** Thank you, Mr. President./END/