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Ellen van Thiel

Statement by Hungary - Mali, UPR Session 15, 22 January 2013

Thank you Mister President,

Hungary welcomes the delegation of Mali and commends the government on its active participation in this UPR despite the strenuous situation of conflict in the country. We recognize that the current instability may have delayed the adoption of certain legislative reforms but hope that the constructive dialogue established during this UPR will assist Mali in improving the human rights situation on the ground:

Hungary positively notes that no death penalties have been executed in Mali since 1984 but is concerned that contrary to its commitment, the Government has failed to adopt a law to this effect and that death sentences continue to be issued. **Hungary recommends** that Mali commute all existing death sentences to imprisonment and ensures the complete abolition of the death penalty, including through the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

My delegation is also concerned that the 2011 adoption of the Personal and Family Code has not resulted in the elimination of all discrimination against women, as agreed to by Mali during the previous UPR. **Hungary recommends** that Mali amend the Code to include explicit reference to its international obligations as regards women's rights. In addition, **we recommend** that Mali take legislative measures to prohibit all forms of FGM and ensure that perpetrators of this harmful practise are brought to justice.

Finally, we believe that Mali will benefit from a stronger cooperation with human rights mechanisms. Therefore we **recommend** that Mali extend a standing invitation to all mandate holders.

Thank you Mr. President