



Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fifteenth Session**

UPR of Romania

(Geneva, January 22nd 2013)

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Mr. President,

Egypt welcomes the high level delegation of Romania, and would like to thank its members for their thorough presentation.

We would like also to congratulate the Government of Romania on the efforts exerted in implementing the recommendations of the review of the first UPR cycle. We welcome in particular the adoption of a comprehensive package of legislative reforms in the field of judicial independence and administration of justice, and fighting high-level corruption. We also express our appreciation to the Government of Romania for the interest it attached to sharing its experience of transition with the emerging democracies of the Arab Spring, especially in the field of electoral reform. In addition, we view the accession to the CRPD, and steps undertaken to promote human rights education and training as important developments which are positively noted.

On the other hand, Egypt takes note of the work done in promoting equality and eradicating discrimination, yet given the number of concerns raised in this regard; we recommend to the Government of Romania to continue its efforts aiming to ensure full equality between all citizens and to combat discrimination, including discrimination against persons belonging to minorities, especially with regard to employment, education, health, and access to justice.

We also seize this opportunity to commend Romania on the amendments to the law of combating trafficking in persons, and we recommend the stepping up of national efforts in combating all forms of human trafficking.

Finally, we recommend that the Government of Romania continue to introduce the legislative and institutional measures necessary to enhance the independence and effectiveness of its NHRI.

I Thank you.