



STATEMENT OF VIET NAM
by Mr. Vu Duy Tuan, Second Secretary

*at the 15th session of the HRC WG on UPR of Tonga
(Genève 21, January 2013)*

Mr. President,

Viet Nam warmly welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Tonga led by H.E. Mr. Lord Veae, Minister of Internal Affairs and thanks him for the presentation of the UPR national report this afternoon.

Joining others, we take note of remarkable efforts and seriousness of the Kingdom in protection and promotion of human rights for her people, including the implementation of her 1st cycle UPR recommendations and the preparation of the 2nd cycle.

My delegation acknowledges the encouraging achievements by Tonga in recent years in the fields of constitutional building, legislation reform, implementation of the MDGs, as well as gender quality. These results are commendable, given difficulties and challenges that a developing country like Tonga has to face today.

Mr. President,

We therefore recommend that Tonga:

- First: ratify cores international human rights treaties, including ICCPR, ICESCR and CEDAW, and,
- Second: continue her momentum on the democratization process and improve her current policies and measures to ensure the equality and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for her people, particularly social vulnerable groups, like women and children.

We wish Tonga success in her UPR review.

I thank you./.