

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Mister President,

Cyprus would like to thank the United Arab Emirates for the preparation of a comprehensive national report and an indeed informative presentation by [H.E.].

Cyprus recognizes the significant progress made in the United Arab Emirates as regards human rights issues and, in this regard, we welcome, in particular, the recent approval by the Emirati Cabinet of the Domestic Workers Bill (Decision No 1/1/1 of 2012).

My Delegation acknowledges the commitment of the Emirati Government to improve and protect the rights of migrant workers in the country. These efforts include the protection of migrant workers from all forms of exploitation (Cabinet Decision No 10 of 2012) and the access to decent housing to improve living conditions for migrant workers (Cabinet Decision No 13 of 2009).

Further to the above, Cyprus wishes to encourage the United Arab Emirates to consider ratifying the International Labour Organization's Conventions No 87 and No 98 on Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining.

In this same vein, my Delegation would also like to offer the following recommendation: That the Government of the United Arab Emirates bolsters its practical capacity to oversee the working and living conditions of migrant workers.

I thank you Mister President.

Deputy Perm. Representative
George YIANGOU