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Italian intervention

UPR – UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

(28/01/2013) PM

Thank you, Mister President.

We welcome the distinguished members of delegation of the United Arab Emirates.

Noting with appreciation the efforts deployed to protect human rights, Italy encourages the UAE to progress further along this path so as to build up the improvements already obtained.

To this end, Italy would like to propose the following **recommendations**:

- to ratify ICCPR, ICESCR and other core international human rights Conventions;
- to consider the adoption of proper reforms in order to improve the protection of freedom for human rights defenders to carry on their initiatives;
- to assure a better implementation of the constitutional provisions on freedom of expression.

Noting that the issue of consular assistance to fellow nationals arrested or detained by Emirates Authorities still raises some concerns, Italy would like to ask in which way the UAE intend to address such problem with the purpose of better guaranteeing the rights of foreign detainees, with particular regard to their access to justice.

Italy commends the good level of women's presence in institutions, universities and corporations where the environment appears conducive to gender equality. While encouraging the UAE to progress further in implementing the international standards on rights of women, Italy remains concerned about the recurrent cases of violence against women. Acknowledging the establishment of new institutions providing rehabilitation services, we would like to ask if the UAE envisage the adoption of ad hoc measures aiming at better preventing violence against women, particularly domestic violence.

I thank you, Mister President