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**Statement by H. E. Mr. Shanker Das Bairagi, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal, at an interactive dialogue with the delegation of the United Arab Emirates during the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group, 28 January 2013**

Mr. President,

Nepal congratulates the delegation of the United Arab Emirates led by His Excellency *the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs*..... for the comprehensive presentation of the national report that outlines the efforts to follow up on the previous UPR and the situation of human rights in the country.

My delegation appreciates the launching of a set of interrelated national policies and strategies including the Emirates Vision 2021 and Strategy of the Government for 2011-2013 that aims at ensuring the enjoyment of the fundamental human rights and freedoms. Significant efforts made in different fields of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly in the areas of empowerment of women, protection of the rights of the child, older persons and persons with disabilities, and promotion of education, healthcare and social welfare remain noteworthy.

UAE has made significant progress in various fields that has resulted in encouraging international indices. We take positive note of the efforts made in improving the workers' rights and combating human trafficking. The Government's serious consideration to the possibility of establishing a national human rights institution is encouraging.

While taking note with satisfaction the accession of the UAE to some important international human rights instruments, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Give continuity to strengthening of national human rights mechanisms.
2. Continue efforts to safeguard the dignity and protect the interests of migrant workers, including through requisite institutional and legislative measures.

I thank you Mr. President.