

**Statement by Denmark in the
interactive dialogue on Bangladesh**

Delivered by Ambassador Steffen Smidt

(73)

Mr. President,

Denmark sincerely thanks the honourable Foreign Minister, Dr. Dipu Moni and her delegation for their presentation.

Denmark commends the Government for the progress made to implement the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord. However, many important provisions of the Accord have yet to be implemented. Indigenous people in the plain lands also remain deprived.

Denmark recommends that the Government sign ILO Convention No 169 that aims to protect the cultural integrity of indigenous societies and enable them to control their own development.

We would also like to ask the Government to fully implement the Peace Accord, and set up a roadmap with a timeframe for implementation. Immediate action could include amending the CHT Land Dispute Resolution Commission Act to reflect the CHT accord.

Denmark congratulates the Government of Bangladesh for making considerable progress in gender equality since 1990s. However, despite strong laws to tackle violence against women, the implementation remains poor.

Denmark recommends that the Government withdraw remaining reservations to the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and give priority to the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act.

Thank you Mr. President