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MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

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**Finland's questions and recommendations to Bangladesh
29 April 2013**

Mr. President,

Finland wishes to thank Bangladesh for the national report and its presentation today.

Finland has studied the national report and welcomes the efforts by Bangladesh to address the violence against women and girls. However, Finland is concerned that too many women and girls continue to be subjected to various forms of violence without access to justice.

Finland commends the willingness expressed by Bangladesh to consider withdrawing its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and would like to hear about possible further developments in this regard.

Finland recommends that Bangladesh

1. Ensure that all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and all forms of sexual abuse, are criminalized.
2. Remove reservations to the Article 2 and to Article 16.1(c) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Thank you.