

Please check against delivery

Statement by H. E. Mr. Shanker Das Bairagi, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal, at an interactive dialogue with the delegation of the People's Republic of Bangladesh during the 16th session of the UPR Working Group, 29 April 2013

Mr. President,

Nepal welcomes the delegation of Bangladesh to the UPR led by Her Excellency Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and congratulates them for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

My delegation appreciates substantial efforts made by Bangladesh for the consolidation of democracy and stabilization of democratic institutions in the country. Reforms undertaken to strengthen legislative, institutional and policy mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights are noteworthy.

Despite facing deep-rooted structural challenges as an LDC, Bangladesh's efforts for the socio-economic development are remarkable. It has made significant achievement in reducing poverty and improving the living standard of its people. Priority attached to employment generation, food security and safety, universal healthcare, water and sanitation, housing and rehabilitation, education, environmental protection, climate change adaption and disaster management have shown substantial results. We take note with satisfaction progress made in achieving some key gender and health related MDGs.

While wishing Bangladesh all success in its efforts to the promotion and protection of human rights, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Give continuity to fighting poverty *and underdevelopment*.
2. Continue efforts for the empowerment of women, children and the underprivileged sections of the society.

I thank you.