DPR George Ylango

Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus Monday, 22 April 2013

## UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 16<sup>th</sup> Session 22 April – 05 May 2013

## **BURKINA FASO**

Mister President,

The Republic of Cyprus welcomes Burkina Faso's participation in the second cycle of the UPR Working Group and thanks its distinguished delegation for its informative National Report. We also wish to praise the Government of Burkina Faso for having implemented a significant number of recommendations of the first UPR-cycle.

Cyprus acknowledges the ratification by Burkina Faso of a number of International Conventions, like for example the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.

In addition, my delegation congratulates the Government of Burkina Faso for significant steps it has taken domestically to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, such as the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and the Promotion of Civic Responsibility, the founding of the National Human Rights Commission and the creation of the National Council to Combat Female Circumcision.

We also note with satisfaction that the Government has adopted various measures on the protection of children's rights. In particular, we appreciate the adoption of a strategic policy framework for the promotion of children's rights covering the period 2008-2017, the establishment of the National Council which is responsible for monitoring the implementation of legal instruments on the rights of children, as well as the establishment of a hotline for reporting child abuses.

Cyprus would like to offer the following recommendation:

Continue taking appropriate measures to protect the most vulnerable children, particularly girls, disabled children and rural children, and to ensure effective protection of children especially against sexual abuse, trafficking and child labour.

I thank you Mister President.