

Statement by Hungary on Cameroon

UPR Session 16,

May 1, 2013

Mr. President,

Hungary warmly welcomes H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Pierre Moukoko Mbonjo to this UPR and thanks the government for its report. Hungary appreciates Cameroon's active role and dedication to the cause of human rights as a member of the bureau during the sixth cycle of the HRC. We positively note Cameroon's ratification of OP-CAT and ILO Conventions No. 144 & 155 and the accreditation to A status of the National Commission of Human Rights and Freedoms and **we recommend** that Cameroon ratify all other international instruments it agreed to ratify during its first UPR review.

Hungary shares the concern of various Special Rapporteurs about the safety of human rights defenders and journalists. **We recommend** that Cameroon abide by its UPR engagements made in 2009 by fully respecting and protecting the rights and freedoms of Human Right Defenders and journalists and that no fines or prison sentences are imposed on persons for expressing political views or opposition to the current government. We believe that Cameroon would benefit from a closer cooperation with special procedures of the OHCHR and **we recommend** that Cameroon issues a standing invitation to all mandate holders and allow a visit by the Special Rapporteurs on Freedom of Opinion and Expression and on Human Rights Defenders.

My delegation welcomes the five-year action plan for the fight against female genital mutilation and we commend the governments for its efforts to eradicate this harmful practice. We recommend that Cameroon, in line with its previously accepted UPR recommendation, adopt legislation prohibiting FMG and continue to strengthen awareness raising on the issue.

Finally, could the delegation provide us with specific figures regarding the representation of minority groups, including the Baka, Pygmy and Mbororo, in the parliament and national administration of Cameroon?

Thank you, Mr. President