

MS. HANNAH NYARICO

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STATEMENT BY GHANA AT THE UPR OF CAPE VERDE
23RD APRIL, 2013

Mr. President,

The delegation of Ghana welcomes the distinguished delegation of Cape Verde and thanks them for the comprehensive national report and the new information provided this morning.

We commend Cape Verde for the efforts being made, in face of very challenging resource constraints, to implement the recommendations accepted at the first UPR, and to promote and protect human rights in the country, with regard to women, children, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. While we welcome the efforts made in the area of education and the progress achieved, we note with concern the high drop-out rate at the secondary education level, and urge the Government of Cape Verde to take steps to address the root causes.

Mr. President,

The treatment of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, particularly from West Africa is of concern. As indicated by UNHCR, a lot remains to be done in this area. We therefore recommend the following:

- 1) Expedite the ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.
- 2) Establish national legislation to implement the provisions of the Convention on Refugees.
- 3) Establish the requisite national asylum legislation and refugee status determination procedure in order to uphold its international obligations more fully.

I thank you Mr. President