Statement of the delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic
during the interactive dialogue of the UPR Working Group
on the Republic of Columbia
23 April 2013

AmB. Gulnara Iskakova

Mr. President,

Kyrgyzstan welcomes the delegation of Columbia and takes note that the promotion and protection of human rights are the priorities of Colombian's domestic and foreign policy. In recent years, Colombia has seen changes at the policymaking and institutional levels designed to ensure full enjoyment of human rights and improvement of the efficiency and coherence of the State's organization and functioning.

Government policy to strengthen democracy, secure the legitimacy of the State, consolidate the rule of law and introduce zero tolerance for violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law has built a foundation on which Colombia has been able to achieve considerable economic growth in the last four years, making it possible to improve social indicators and to reduce social inequality.

The policies implemented by Colombia and its commitment to ensuring respect for and guaranteeing human rights have made possible implementation of 49 recommendations and/or voluntary commitments. Implementation of the remaining 84 commitments is under way.

Mr. President,

My delegation is particularly impressed by the fact that in 2012 the bill, that supported by women's organizations, was presented to the Congress that would define sexual violence as a crime against humanity.

In his regard, we recommend to develop a comprehensive plan of action to address violence against women on the basis of the repeated recommendations made by the United Nations and the Inter-American human rights system. Also we recommend that Colombia strengthen its trafficking prevention programmes under the National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking 2007–2012, with particular attention to children and women.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, my delegation withes success to the Colombian authorities in the promotion and protection of human rights!

I thank you!