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**16th Session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Cuba
Statement by Ambassador Daw Penjo, Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of Bhutan on 1 May 2013.**

Mr. President,



Bhutan welcomes the high level delegation of Cuba led by their Minister for Foreign Affairs to this session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their National Report.

Bhutan commends the numerous measures carried out by the Government of Cuba to advance the human rights and fundamental freedoms of its citizens. Implementation of various activities for the protection and promotion of the rights of the child, rights of disabled persons, right to education and health, are highly commendable.

We also appreciate Cuba's high level of cooperation and interaction with the UN human rights mechanisms in its efforts to fulfil the human rights obligations. We encourage Cuba to continue with this positive and constructive approach.

In conclusion, Bhutan would like to make the following recommendation:

- i) To continue developing the domestic legislation and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.

I thank you, Mr. President.