

Statement by Hungary on Cuba, UPR Session 16, May 1, 2013

Mr. President,

Hungary welcomes Cuba and commends the Government for providing quality education for all and the new migration policy allowing Cubans to travel abroad. We appreciate initiatives to increase access to information and the recent economic changes, which legalised new private sector activities. To promote an enabling environment where reforms can bear fruits, we **recommend** the following:

1. To lift restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression that are not in accordance with the UDHR, and to ensure affordable and unhindered access to the internet for all.
2. To halt short-term detentions, harassments and other repressive measures against human rights defenders and journalists and implement legal safeguards to ensure their protection against abuse of provisions for criminal prosecution.
3. To ratify the ICCPR and ensure full implementation of all its provisions

Finally, we welcome Cuba's commitment to issue invitations to the special procedures of the HRC on a non-discriminatory basis and we **recommend** the Government to extend a standing invitation to all mandate holders.

Thank you Mr. President