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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

**On the occasion of the Universal Periodic Review of Cuba
16th Session**

Statement by:

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Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative**

Geneva, 1st May 2013

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Mr. President

The Delegation of Uganda commends the Government of Cuba for achieving MDGs 1, 2, 3 and 4 despite the difficult circumstance under which they operate in. This shows the commitment of the Cuban government not only to its people but also to the international community and is therefore doubly noteworthy.

We also commend the Cuban government for its tireless efforts of submitting their Human rights reports to the relevant United Nations rights mechanisms and for cooperating and engaging with all the human rights bodies as well as supporting their work especially through voluntary contributions. This too is a testimony of the government's commitment.

Uganda appreciates the programmes arrived at improving the rights of children, youth, women and the elderly.

It is our belief that many countries can draw some good practices from Cuba's programmes for the prevention and mitigation of the natural disaster and indeed many have benefited from the services of Henry Reave Brigade of Medical Doctors specialising in disaster situations.

We recommend that Cuba further increases popular participation in elections and decision-making processes.