GHANA

STATEMENT AT THE UPR OF DJIBOUTI, 25TH APRIL, 2013

Mr. President,

The delegation of Ghana welcomes the distinguished delegation of Djibouti and thanks them for the informative national report and the additional information provided by the Hon. Minister for in his presentation of the report.

We commend Djibouti for the efforts it has made to implement the recommendations accepted in the first UPR and other efforts being made to address the challenges in education, health, housing and other sectors of the economy, and to promote and protect the human rights of its peoples.

We also would like to commend the Government for the efforts being made to improve the situation of women, in particular the adoption of relevant international human rights instruments, as well as domestic legislation such as the National Gender Policy 2011-21 aimed at establishing an egalitarian society where women can contribute on equal footing to the country's socio-economic and political development. We urge the Government to further strengthen the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, and to intensify public awareness pogrammes campaigns on violence against women.

The issue of FGM is of important concern therefore we recommend that the government continue to implement the national strategy for the total elimination of FGM and all forms of excision.

Finally, Ghana wishes Djibouti well.

I thank you Mr. President