

66

Check against delivery

**Italian intervention**

**UPR – Djibouti  
( 25 /04/2013)**

Thank you, Mister President.

We warmly welcome the distinguished delegation of Djibouti.

We applaud the commitment of Djibouti in favor of the adoption by the UN General Assembly of a resolution explicitly banning FGM as a violation of human rights of women and girls and for the efforts deployed with a view of reducing such a heinous practice. However Italy is still concerned by the persistence of widespread use of FGM in the Country. According to some sources, 93 % of women between 14 and 45 years of age are still suffering mutilations of types II or III with direct impact on the high maternal death rate. Italy therefore reiterates its **recommendation** to step up efforts aimed at combating FGM, inter alia by improving the monitoring mechanism, and fighting against the stereotypes and the culture of no-reporting, also through awareness-raising campaigns targeted to communities as well as individuals.

Italy notes with concern the presence in the Country of numerous cases of trafficking in human beings. While commending Djibouti for the efforts aimed at tackling this crime and recognizing the challenges raised by its geographical position, Italy **recommends** that Djibouti enhance its efforts to fight against trafficking in persons and fully protect the human rights of victims, especially women, children and migrants in transit.

I thank you, Mr. President