



SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

CONSIDERATION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW REPORT OF  
DJIBOUTI

25 APRIL 2013

PALAIS DES NATIONS

*Check against delivery*

Mr President,

South Africa wishes to warmly welcome the distinguished delegation of Djibouti to the 16<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group. We congratulate Djibouti on the submission of their national report and welcome the opportunity to once again interact with Djibouti as part of the Universal Periodic Review process. This continued commitment to the UPR process is to be commended.

We applaud the commitment of Djibouti to eliminate discrimination against women and welcome legislative amendments aimed at addressing violence against women, including Female Genital Mutilation. **South Africa recommends that Djibouti continue to prioritise the enforcement mechanisms for compliance with the core provisions on the CEDAW by ensuring a rapid change in mentalities regarding women's rights, female genital mutilation, early marriage and the perception of the role and place of women, through education.**

The national report clearly outlines the priorities of the Government to alleviate poverty in the country. While some progress has been achieved, **South Africa recommends that Djibouti continues to prioritize policies and programmes aimed at eradicating poverty and underemployment and ensuring the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights.**<sup>4</sup>

The expectations of the government of Djibouti in relation to technical assistance are also clearly outlined in the report. A number of key areas are identified by the government which would assist in the promotion and protection of the human rights of the citizens of Djibouti. South Africa calls on the international community to assist the Government of Djibouti with the requested capacity building and technical assistance. **South Africa further recommends that the Government of Djibouti should consider prioritizing the stated objective of developing a comprehensive national action plan for promotion and protection of all human rights.**

We wish Djibouti well in the implementation of all accepted recommendations.

I thank you.