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**UPR WORKING GROUP –SIXTEENTH SESSION
(22 April - 3 May 2013)**

UPR OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION– INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

29 April 2013: 1430 – 1800 HRS.

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

My delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of Russian Federation and thanks them for their National Report and its presentation.

The report presents a comprehensive overview of steps taken by Russia to implement the recommendations received during its first UPR. India welcomes the advances made by Russia since then. In particular, India notes with appreciation the setting up of Commissioners for Children's Rights within the Office of the President of the Federation and that such Commissioners have been established in all the 83 Federal subjects of the Federation. We also commend Russia for adopting a law on free legal assistance, that took effect in January 2012.

We welcome the reform measures with regard to procedural safeguards, such as the passing of the Federal Act on the Police in 2011 which reaffirms the absolute ban on the use by the police of torture, violence and other cruel or degrading treatment and their concerted action to improve the situation of persons in custody.

We encourage the delegation of Russia to continue to pursue its stated reform measures to improve quality, efficiency of case handling with a view to boost public confidence in administration of justice. We would also encourage Russia to continue to promote and guarantee freedom of religious belief and tolerance in the country. We

appreciate Russia's candid acknowledgement of its challenges, including the problem of violence against women, and believe that the setting up of a Working Group to draft a federal bill for prevention of violence in the family is a step in the right direction.

We wish the delegation of Russia the very best in their future endeavours.

Thank you, President.
