

34

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Statement by Pakistan for the UPR of the Russian Federation
16th Session of the UPR Working Group
29 April 2013

Mr. President,

I would like to thank H.E. Mr. Alexander Kononov, Minister of Justice of the Russian Federation for presenting the national report.

We appreciate the legislation by the Russian Government in January 2012 to provide qualified legal assistance, free of charge, to its citizens. This step will help people to seek fair trial and justice without discrimination. Similarly, the establishment of Regional Commissioners for human rights and a Commissioner for children's rights are welcome and positive developments.

Mr. President,

We have also taken note of the number of steps by the Russian Government in compliance with the Convention Against Torture including establishment of hotline for citizens to report crimes by internal affairs personnel.

Mr. President,

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

- Improve the legislation and the activity of state institutions in combating discrimination, ethnic strife and different forms of extremism.
- Encourage racial, ethnic and religious tolerance, especially among youth.
- Continue taking legislative and law enforcement measures aimed at the harmonization of inter-ethnic relations.