



**STATEMENT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION DURING THE REVIEW  
OF CHINA**

**17<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW WORKING GROUP**

**22 OCTOBER 2013**

*Check against delivery*

Mr President,

We welcome the high level delegation of China and appreciate the growing strong bilateral relations which exist between our countries and the special partnerships we share through FOCAC and BRICS.

We appreciate China's highly effective response to the global financial crisis, maintaining an average GDP growth of 9.3 per cent per annum from 2008 to 2012. Importantly, rural and urban residents' incomes maintained average annual growth rates of 9.9 per cent and 8.8 percent respectively.

We make the following recommendations:

- Strengthen international cooperation with other countries on poverty reduction, the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and good governance;
- Further guarantee the rights of life, education and health; and
- Further enhance the rights of children, especially orphaned and disabled children, children affected by HIV/AIDS and children from poor households.

We thank China for the engagement with the working group today and wish them well for the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

I thank you.