(Check against delivery)

Bangladesh intervention on the UPR of Republic of the Congo

Thank you Mr. President.

My delegation has noted the comprehensive and candid national report that highlighted the challenges faced by Congo. We are happy to note the progress in reporting to Treaty bodies as mentioned by the Honorable Minister.

We have taken note of the poverty-reduction strategy paper and the document on growth, employment and poverty reduction as contributing to the efforts in reducing poverty. The National report manifests notable progress achieved in the economic, social, cultural spheres.

My delegation acknowledges that despite the progresses made and the efforts exerted, there still exist some challenges that the country needs to address in various sectors like the high mortality rates, particularly infant, child and maternal mortality, low participation of women in decision-making and high prevalence of HIV rate as noted by Treaty bodies.

However, we must acknowledge that Congo cannot fight these challenges alone. The International community must compliment the efforts of the government by providing necessary support and assistances.

In view of the above, we recommend that Congo

- 1. Continues to combat poverty with the assistance from international community; and
- 2. Continues its efforts to ensure equality for women with the assistance from the international community.