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Statement of Kenya
at the
17th session of the UPR Working Group
on the
Review of Congo
Wednesday, 30th October 2013
Geneva

Mr. President,

Kenya welcomes the continued commitment of Congo to the promotion and protection of human rights.

We have noted some important progress made since the last review, including the continuation of the programme of free primary education -- introduced in 2007.

Equally, we commend the recent efforts in strengthening the national human rights institution, transforming it to a category 'B' status.

Congo has recently acceded to additional human rights instruments, including the Optional Protocols I and II to the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and has adopted new legislation to enhance the rights of particular segments of population, including women and children.

Kenya welcomes these efforts; as well as the renewed commitment to enhance the State's capacity to fulfill its reporting obligations to the human rights treaty bodies.

Recommendation

Kenya would recommend that Congo considers progressively elevating the status of the National Human Rights Institution to make it in line with the Paris Principles.

In closing, Kenya commends the delegation of Congo for the fruitful interaction, and wishes them a successful outcome.

I thank you.