**Universal Periodic Review of the Republic of the Congo**

30 October 2013

Intervention by the delegation of Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Republic of the Congo and wishes to thank for the valuable information provided in the introductory statement as well as in the national report.

As a candidate for the Human Rights Council in 2011, the Republic of the Congo had emphasised *“its commitment to work continually to promote the ideals of justice and equality as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations”*. While we acknowledge the efforts of the Government of the Republic of the Congo to overcome gender inequality, we note that CEDAW [the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women] expressed concern about the persistence of discriminatory legal provisions as well as of discriminatory customary practices and local traditions regarding marriage, inheritance and property rights. Liechtenstein **recommends that the Republic of the Congo review and repeal all legal provisions which discriminate against women, especially provisions in the Family Code, Penal Code and tax law, with a view to achieving de jure equality.** Additionally, Liechtenstein would like to **recommend that the Republic of the Congo step up its efforts to end discriminatory traditional practices by organising large-scale awareness-raising campaigns on women’s rights, which target local and religious leaders as well as the population in general.**

Liechtenstein acknowledges the Republic of the Congo’s commitment to international justice. **In this regard, Liechtenstein recommends that the Republic of the Congo ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute, if possible with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over the crime of aggression at the beginning of 2017.**