



STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Congo
17th Session of the UPR Working Group of the
Human Rights Council
21 October – 1 November 2013

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia warmly welcomes the delegation of Congo, led by His Excellency MR. BIENVENU OKIEMY to the 17th Session of the UPR Working Group. We thank them for their detailed presentation of its national report.

2. Despite the various challenges Congo is facing in promoting and protecting the human rights of its people, my delegation is impressed with the progress that Congo has made since its first review in 2009. We appreciate Congo's open and transparent engagement with all stakeholders in preparing their National Report.

3. My delegation further lauds the achievements and progress that Congo has made in the areas of education, eradicating poverty, health and combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, among others. We take positive note of the increase of 25 per cent the number of primary and secondary schools built as well as the provision of free textbooks for students up to secondary school. We commend Congo and encourage them to continue these exemplary efforts.

4. My delegation would like to make the following **two** recommendations:

- i) one: to continue its efforts in finalising the bill to control trafficking in persons and to provide appropriate funding and resources on programmes and activities in this regard; and
- ii) two: to continue its efforts to widen the access to education for all primary and secondary children including through allocating more resources in the area of education.

I thank you.

GENEVA
30 October 2013