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*Check Against Delivery*

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
17<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE UPR  
REVIEW OF CONGO  
30 OCTOBER 2013

STATEMENT BY NIGERIA

Mr. President,

The Nigerian delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of Congo and thanks them for the presentation of their UPR report. We commend the Congolese authorities for the effort put into the preparation of the report, and for their involvement of relevant stakeholders, including civil society.

We also commend Congo for the progress made in the promotion and protection of the human rights of its citizens since its last review in 2009. We are particularly pleased to note the concrete steps Congo has taken in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the success achieved in the vaccination coverage where 90 percent of children up to age 5 have been immunised against measles, hepatitis A and B, tuberculosis, diphtheria and yellow fever. We commend Congo for translating economic growth to improved living conditions for its citizens.

We would like to make the following recommendations:

- i. Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- ii. Take steps to bring the National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles.
- iii. Strengthen the independence of the judiciary.
- iv. Intensify efforts to strengthen the national system for the promotion and protection of human rights.

I thank you.