



**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**STATEMENT DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF CONGO**

**30 OCTOBER 2013**

**PALAIS DES NATIONS**

*Check against delivery*

Mr. President,

We warmly welcome the delegation of Congo to the working group. We appreciate the continued commitment to the UPR process and commend Congo for accepting a large number of the recommendations stemming from the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle of the UPR.

South Africa notes positively the strides made in the promotion and protection of the rights of children in various areas such as health, education, the combating of trafficking, violence and exploitation. Congo continues to establish productive relationships with international organisations such as UNICEF and the World Bank to enhance the enjoyment of human rights by Congolese children.

Mr. President,

We welcome the continued work being undertaken to combat the effects of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which impacts negatively on the socio-economic development of the country. South Africa applauds the initiatives being undertaken in this regard, which include, the adoption of Act No. 30-2011 on efforts to control HIV/AIDS and the protection for people living with HIV.

South Africa presents the following recommendations for consideration:

1. Continue to prioritize policies aimed at enhancing the access of all children to education,

2. Continue to collaborate with international organisations to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights by all.

Finally Mr. President, we congratulate Congo on their interaction with the working group today and wish them well for the implementation of the accepted recommendations and further engagements with the UPR process.

I thank you.