

Check against delivery

Italian intervention

**UPR – Malaysia
(24/10/2013)**

Thank you, Mister President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Malaysia.

Italy welcomes the progresses achieved so far by Malaysia in the field of promotion and protection of human rights, as demonstrated in particular by the abrogation of the Internal Security Act and the achievement ahead of schedule of the MDG target on poverty reduction. While encouraging Malaysia to proceed with reforms in line with human rights international standards, Italy **recommends** that Malaysia may soon become a Party to the core international Conventions on human rights that it has not ratified yet.

Italy notes the advancements in the field of the rights of women, especially in regard to the definition of domestic violence, and encourages Malaysia to increase efforts to address episodes of discrimination and violence against women such as marital rape. Furthermore, Italy **recommends** that proper measures be adopted in order to discourage the practice of early and forced marriages.

Italy is concerned by recurring news about restrictions regarding the full enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief. Italy thus **recommends** that Malaysia revises its legislative framework in order to ensure freedom of religion or belief for all.

I thank you, Mr. President