

Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Seventeenth Session**

Review of Mauritius

**Statement by
Ambassador Wafaa Bassim
Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations
and other international organizations in Geneva**

(Geneva, 23rd of October 2013)

Mr. President,

I would like to welcome the delegation of Mauritius and commend the elaborate presentation it made to the UPR Working Group today. Egypt notes the breadth and thoroughness of the consultations the government of Mauritius conducted in preparation of its national report, which demonstrates its desire to interact with the international human rights system and reflects its legacy in democratic practice.

We have examined with interest what was mentioned in the report and we welcome the enactment of new legislations since the last review of Mauritius to better guarantee the protection of human rights, including: the protection of human rights act in 2012, the equal opportunities act, the combating of trafficking in persons act and the legal aid act.

We believe that Mauritius has been a responsible member of the Human Rights Council, upholding the principles of international human rights law and arguing that the fundamental mission of the body is the promotion of peace and multilateralism. In that vein, Egypt presents the following recommendations to Mauritius, hoping that it will consider adopting them:

- 1- To continue current efforts to implement the national plan to combat HIV/AIDS.
- 2- To adopt policies to encourage women and girls to choose non-traditional fields of education, including technical and vocational training.
- 3- To finalize the process of reviewing the legal framework on prohibiting, preventing and responding to all forms of sale and sexual exploitation of children, and ensure the effective implementation of the framework through, inter alia, the harmonization of national legal and regulatory frameworks with ratified international instruments, accompanied by binding measures and mechanisms.
- 4- To introduce temporary special measures in areas where women are underrepresented or disadvantaged and raise awareness among parliamentarians and Government officials about the necessity of such measures.

I thank you.