**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS - STATEMENT BY H. E. MS. VIVIANNE FOCK TAVE, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA,**

**23RD OCTOBER 2013, GENEVA**

The Government of Seychelles is **pleased** to note the great strides taken by Mauritius towards the protection and promotion of human rights since the submission of its last UPR report in 2009.

Seychelles applauds the steps taken in advancing the rights and status of women, including the implementation of the National Gender Policy Framework and the National Action Plan to Combat Domestic violence.

As sister countries, Seychelles and Mauritius share common values of democracy and human rights, and face similar challenges in the pursuance of the full realization of human rights, both being SIDS.

**In this view, Seychelles would like to present the following recommendations:**

1. Taking note of the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, for Mauritius to also consider extending a standing invitation to the Special Procedures Mechanism.
2. To ratify the Third Optional Protocol on the Rights of the Child on Communications Procedure. In this view, Seychelles also looks forward to the adoption and implementation of the Children’s Bill.

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