



SIERRA LEONE PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES

**Madam Vice, President,**

My delegation would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Mauritius and thank the Head of Delegation for the presentation of the national report. Sierra Leone congratulates Mauritius upon the recent ranking by the Economist Intelligence Unit at 18 compared to the previous rank of 26 in democracy. This is testimony to the great achievements registered by Mauritius since the first cycle of review. We note with satisfaction the numerous achievements including:

The establishment of the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment to address needs of vulnerable groups; the Maurice Ile Durable Policy to alleviate poverty; the training programmes on human rights; the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations promulgated in 2011 and ratification of the UN Convention of Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2010 as well as the Optional Protocol on the sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography in 2011.

Sierra Leone recognises that despite the progress made by Mauritius, there is still room for improvement and recommends that Mauritius:

- Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their families;
- Expedite the process of introducing a media bill to enhance freedom of expression and individual rights;
- Intensify the efforts to integrate human rights education in the national curriculum.

Sierra Leone wishes Mauritius well in its quest to ensure its population enjoys human rights.

I thank you.