

Italian intervention

**UPR –Nigeria
(22/10/2013)**

Thank you, Mister President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Nigeria.

Italy values the quality of the bilateral dialogue on human rights, strengthened during ~~the~~ meeting held in September between the two Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

Italy appreciates the efforts deployed by Nigeria to promote and protect human rights, in particular in relation to women and children. Nevertheless, Italy suggests to Nigeria the following **recommendations**:

- to continue fighting against gender related violence, including FGM, by enhancing measures, such as ad hoc awareness-raising campaigns and legal aid programme to increase victims' access to justice;
- to step up efforts to tackle the practice of early and forced marriages.
- to increase the commendable ongoing efforts aiming at granting full and free access to quality education for all children, inter alia by boosting annual expenditure on education;
- to identify and remove administrative, physical and any other barriers that still impede access to birth registration, thus facilitating for everyone the access to health care and education.

Finally, regretting the recent executions that took place in State of Edo, Italy **recommends** that the moratorium on executions, which had been in place since 2006, be officially restored throughout the whole country.

Thank you, Mr President