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**UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**On the occasion of the Universal Periodic Review of Nigeria  
17<sup>th</sup> Session**

**Statement by:**

**Christopher Onyanga Aparr  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative**

**Geneva, 22 October 2013**

*Please Check against delivery*

Madam Vice President

Uganda welcomes the delegation of Nigeria led by H.E. Mr. Mohammed Bello Adoke, the Hon. Attorney-General and Minister of Justice and thanks them for cooperating with the United Nations Institutions, especially the UPR mechanism. We note in particular the following achievements;

1. The rights-based approach to economic management that is pro-poor and gender sensitive which is contained in the economic transformation blueprint code-named Nigeria's Vision 20: 2020. For instance, Section 2 of the blueprint relates to the promotion and protection of human rights thus guaranteeing the well-being and productivity of Nigerians.
2. The Government of Nigeria has also amended the National Human Rights Commission Act -thus granting the commission operational and financial independence and to enhance its investigative and enforcement capacity.
3. Nigeria further acceded to several human rights instruments in particular the Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities; convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; Optional Protocol on the Rights of the Child on the sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Pornography and the Optional Protocol to CRC on involvement of Children in Armed conflict.
4. Nigeria also ratified the African Union Convention for Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

Despite the challenges that Nigeria is faced with, there is a systematic progress towards the promotion and Protection of human rights and we recommend that the International Community heed the call by Nigeria for technical assistance.

We further recommend that Nigeria takes concrete steps to deal with internal insecurity to guarantee promotion and protection of human rights.

Thank You. Madam Vice President

