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Statement by the Delegation of Nepal, at an interactive dialogue with the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the 17th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, 21 October 2013

Mr. President

Nepal welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the UPR led by His Excellency ~~the Chairman of the Human Rights Commission of Saudi Arabia~~ and congratulates them for the comprehensive presentation of the national report that highlights the human rights progress accomplished in the country.

My delegation appreciates the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia towards strengthening the national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights. The progress made in the areas of education, health services, employment, housing and social welfare is commendable. The priority attached to combating discrimination and promoting freedom of opinion and expression, judicial and legislative reforms, and the protection and promotion of the rights of women and children are noteworthy.

While wishing the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia all success in its efforts to the promotion and protection of the rights of all segments of society, my delegation would like to make the following recommendation for the consideration of the Saudi delegation:

1. Continue efforts to enhance the welfare of migrant workers, including the domestic workers, and further strengthen the mechanisms to prevent their exploitation.

I thank you.