



SIERRA LEONE

Universal Periodic Review Second Cycle – Senegal

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR YVETTE STEVENS

Mr. President,

Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen

Sierra Leone would like to commend Senegal for its efforts and achievements since the last Universal Periodic Review in 2009. Sierra Leone notes that the process of preparation of the National Report was inclusive, involving all stakeholders.

Senegal has made commendable efforts in, inter alia, combatting human trafficking, promoting gender parity, addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, protection of children and in addressing the economic and social rights of its peoples. Notable achievements include the adoption by Senegal in March 2010 of a law that classifies enslavement and slave trading as crimes against humanity; and the introduction of extensive legislative and regulatory measures to protect human rights.

Sierra Leone, having reviewed the various reports, makes the following recommendations:

- Intensify efforts to bring the Senegalese Human Rights Committee into full compliance with the Paris Principles and thus to restore its "A" status;
- Continue its efforts to prioritize the restoration of lasting peace in Casamance;
- Consider modernizing the education system by enshrining the right to basic education in law.

Sierra Leone wishes Senegal well.

I thank you.