

18th Session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Cambodia

Statement by Amb. Daw Penjo, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bhutan on 28th January 2014.

Mr. President,

My delegation extends a warm welcome to His Excellency Mr. Mak Sambath, Vice Chair of the National Human Rights Commission of Cambodia and his delegation to this Session of the UPR Working Group and congratulates them for the comprehensive national report.

We commend Cambodia for the efforts made to implement the recommendations received during its first review in 2009. Cambodia has made remarkable achievements in its economic, political and social development despite formidable challenges. The impressive progress in human rights development against this backdrop is highly commendable. In particular, we note with appreciation the reforms in legal and judicial strategies in compliance with the international standards.

We also note the positive initiatives taken to promote and protect the human rights of the vulnerable groups such as the women and children. The adoption of Education Strategic Plan for ensuring equitable access to education services and the setting up of 'Cambodia Commit Task Force' to combat human trafficking are noteworthy.

We observe from its national report that challenges remain in terms of reducing the poverty level in rural areas and in narrowing the rural urban divide. We would like to recommend to the Royal Government of Cambodia to intensify its efforts to reduce the rural- urban income inequalities with support from the international community and other relevant UN agencies.

We wish the delegation of Cambodia success in its UPR engagement.

I thank you, Mr. President

Speaker 26th.

Speaking time: 1 min 35 secs.