Statement by Hungary on Cambodia, UPR Session 18, 28 January 2014

Mr. President,

Hungary warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation from Cambodia to this UPR and thanks the delegation for the national report.

My delegation takes positive note of Cambodia's accession to and ratification of various international Human Rights instruments, including CEDAW and CRPD. Since Cambodia is an abolitionist country for all crimes regarding the death penalty, Hungary recommends that the Government of Cambodia ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

Hungary notes with great concern that the electronic media still falls under the leadership and management of the Royal Government. Hungary therefore recommends that Cambodia, in line with its commitment under the previous UPR cycle, work towards ensuring free access to the electronic media and liberalize the electronic media ownership rules by drafting a Cyber Law in accordance with international standards.

My delegation is also shares the concerns of the Special Rapporteur about the electoral irregularities following the elections of 2013. In order to avoid similar issues in the future, we encourage the Government to give the National Election Committee an independent and autonomous status with its own independent budget allocated by Parliament.

Finally Mr President, Hungary positively, notes the progress made by the government to increase primary and secondary education through the Education Strategic plan, but we remain concerned that such education is still not compulsory and that corruption in schools is widespread. Hungary recommends Cambodia to make education compulsory by law and take the necessary measures to combat corruption in the educational system.

Thank you, Mr. President