

Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Eighteenth Session**

Review of Dominican Republic

**Statement by
Ambassador Dr. Walid Abdelnasser
Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations
and other international organizations in Geneva**

(Geneva, 5 February 2014)

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Mr. President,

I would like to welcome the delegation of the Dominican Republic and commend the elaborate presentation it made to the UPR Working Group today. We wish to thank the delegation for the informative and comprehensive report that the delegation has presented. We have examined with great interest what was mentioned in the report since the first UPR cycle and we welcome the improvement of citizens' access to institutions that ensure better protection of human rights, based on the initiative of the Attorney General's Office, by a resolution of the Supreme Council of the Public Prosecution Service dated March 2011, whereby the "Human Rights Unit" was established and operates in the Attorney General's Office.

We believe that the Dominican Republic has been a responsible member of the Human Rights Council, and in that vein, Egypt presents the following recommendations in the spirit of positive dialogue, hoping that the Dominican Republic will consider adopting them:

- 1- To consider adopting legislative measures to facilitate access of women in rural areas to land ownership; to ensure that poverty reduction and income-generating strategies include provisions relating to rural women; and to ensure access by rural women and girls to education.
- 2- To provide access to adequate and affordable housing for everyone.
- 3- To increase health-care expenditures and ensure universal access to health and adequate training of health personnel.
- 4- To continue its current efforts to provide access to quality education without discrimination for the school-age population throughout the country.
- 5- To consider the strengthening of environmental legislation and policies, and that the establishment of legal advisory and enforcement capacity on environment should be considered as priority needs and actions.

I thank you