

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA Review of Dominican Republic 18th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council 27 January – 7 February 2014

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of the Dominican Republic to the 18th Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

- 2. Malaysia appreciates the update made by the Dominican Republic on the promotion and protection of human rights in the country as well as on the implementation of the recommendations received in 2009. We note that the Dominican Republic has undertaken various legislative and institutional measures to further promote and protect human rights in the country since its first UPR.
- 3. Malaysia commends the Dominican Republic's numerous efforts in advancing women's rights, particularly in addressing the problem of violence against women and notes with appreciation the various mechanisms that have been set up to ensure the protection of and access to justice for victims of physical and psychological abuse. Much progress is also being made in promoting and protecting the rights of the child, especially in the areas of education, where the Government has established a range of educational strategies to further provide and improve quality of education for children and adolescents.
- 4. In the spirit of constructive engagement, Malaysia wishes to make the following **two** recommendations for the consideration of the Dominican Republic:
 - 4.1. One: To continue supporting the efforts to empower women in social and public life, including by providing adequate financial and human resources to implement policies and programmes afforded to them; and
 - 4.2. **Two:** To continue to focus on the overall improvement in the quality of education provided, including by continuing to provide human rights education, training and courses to students, civilian populations and law enforcement officials.

I thank you.

GENEVA 5 February 2014