

UN Human Rights Council
18th Session of the Working Group of the UPR
Review of Eritrea

Geneva, February 2014

Statement by Armenia

Thank you Mr President.

Armenia welcomes the delegation of Eritrea and thanks them for the presentation of the report. We appreciate the legislative and institutional changes undertaken by the Government of Eritrea in order to guarantee a better protection of human rights and equality in the country.

We would like to note the efforts towards improving social-economic conditions of the population and strengthening the protection of food security.

In these regards, it is noteworthy the proclamation No. 170/2012, which was issued to strengthen the national policy on food security with the ultimate objective of ensuring and increasing access to food at the household level.

Armenia notes the Government's provision of free basic education compulsory for all school age children and efforts towards increasing of Gross Enrolment Ratio in all levels of education. However, we are concerned by the compulsory practice of all children undertaking the final year of schooling in a military training camp.

Armenia recommends Eritrea:

1. to consider accession to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;
2. to continue its efforts towards protecting human rights especially through promoting gender equality and support economic empowerment of women in the country.

Thank you Mr President