

Statement of Kenya at the
18th Session of the UPR Working Group
on the Review of Eritrea
Monday, February 3rd 2014
Geneva

Mr. President,

We welcome the delegation of Eritrea to this review meeting. We have listened attentively to the presentation of their national report.

The report contains some positive, as well as some challenging aspects. On the positive aspect, we have taken note of the Government's continued commitment to providing subsidized health services and free basic education. This commitment, if carried through, can make an important contribution to the realization of some of the Millennium Development Goals -- reducing child mortality (MDG4), and improving maternal health (MDG5).

A number of challenges are also highlighted. Among them, we note that some key recommendations that were accepted in the previous UPR cycle have not been implemented. These include the recommendations regarding the ratification of the Convention against Torture, as well as the ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

We welcome the Government's assurance, as contained in paragraph 90 of the report, that "the internal juridical processes of approval and endorsement" have now been completed.

Recommendations

We would make the following two recommendations:

Firstly, Eritrea expedites the implementation of the accepted recommendations of the first UPR cycle, including the ratification of the Convention against Torture, and the ILO Convention No. 182.

Secondly, Eritrea enhances its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and the OHCHR.

I thank you.