

18th Session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Vanuatu
Tashi Peldon, First secretary.
Statement by ~~Amb. Daw Penjo, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of~~ Bhutan on 30th January 2014.

Mr. President,

My delegation warmly welcomes the ~~delegation~~ delegation of Vanuatu to this session of the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for the updates on the human rights development in Vanuatu since its first review and the challenges it continues to face.

Bhutan would like to commend the efforts made towards improving the human rights situation in Vanuatu despite the challenges and constraints it faces. We commend Vanuatu for adopting various national measures and policies in line with the recommendations received during its first review. Bhutan in particular, note with appreciation the numerous policies adopted by the Department of Women Affairs in its effort to eliminate discrimination against women and to protect and promote their human rights.

We also take positive note of the initiatives taken to protect women who are victims of domestic violence such as the establishment of the Family Protection Unit under the Police. In this regard, we would like to recommend to the Government of Vanuatu to continue its efforts in raising awareness campaign to sensitize communities and general public on issues of domestic violence.

In conclusion, we wish the delegation of Vanuatu a successful engagement in its review process.

I thank you, Mr. President.