

Check against delivery

**Statement****By****The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia****On the Universal Periodic Review of the Kingdom of Bhutan**

Ethiopia welcome the delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan led by H.E. Mr. Lyonpo Damcho Dorji, Minister for Home and Cultural Affairs of Bhutan to the 19th session of the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for the national report and the oral update.

We commend Bhutan for identifying priority areas in the promotion and protection of human rights and further note with appreciation Bhutan's effort to enhance the legal and normative framework on the protection of human rights inter alia fighting discrimination, protection of the rights of the child, women's rights, gender equality, social assistance, education, health care, justice system and fight against corruption.

We particularly note with appreciation the 10th Five Year Plan (FYP) of Bhutan designed to reduce poverty and address the root causes of underdevelopment. It is also encouraging to note the overarching objective of the 11th FYP to achieve Self-reliance and Inclusive Green Socio-Economic Development to further reduce poverty and register sustainable economic development in the upcoming years.

My delegation strongly believes that alleviation of poverty will enable states to better implement human and people's right. Thus, we would like to encourage the Government of Bhutan to further strengthen its effort to tackle poverty.

My delegation would like to recommend Bhutan to;

1. Strengthen the monitoring and evaluation efforts on women's empowerment and child protection through development of appropriate monitoring mechanism;
2. Request development assistance to achieve the MDGs goals in its time framework.

Finally, my delegation wishes all the best to the delegation of Bhutan in its engagement with the Human Rights Council.

Thank you