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Statement of the delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic during the interactive dialogue of the UPR Working Group on Bhutan 30 April, 2014

Mr. President,

Kyrgyzstan welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan and notes with satisfaction that over the past four years Bhutan has worked hard on implementation of the recommendations accepted in the 1st UPR cycle.

My delegation took note that Bhutan is on track to achieving most MDGs by 2015 or earlier. Poverty rate has dropped from 23.3% in 2007 to 12% in 2012. The government provides free education to all children from pre-primary to grade 10. Also, the healthcare has always been free in Bhutan.

Kyrgyzstan fully supports the anti-corruption measures taken by the Government of Bhutan. According to Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index, Bhutan currently ranks 31 out of 177 countries, an 18 point improvement from its rank of 49 in 2009.

Mr. President,

Acknowledging the great progress and encouraging results of Bhutan in the promotion and protection of human rights, my delegation recommends:

- 1) to pay attention to the issue of domestic violence, gender gap in tertiary education and women's participation in politics;
- 2) to strengthen the Government's efforts to iliminate illiteracy, particularly in remote and difficult locations.

Mr. President,

My delegation strongly believes that Bhutan will further strengthen institutions that promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

I thank you!