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**Closing Statement by the Leader of the Bhutanese Delegation**

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**Royal Government of Bhutan**

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Mr. President,  
Members of the Working Group,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies & Gentlemen,

On behalf of my delegation, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the member states for your participation in our second UPR. We thank you for the constructive and cooperative spirit that you showed throughout the session.

We are confident that the outcome of today's review will contribute towards Bhutan's endeavors in further promoting and protecting human rights for its people. Bhutan believes that the UPR mechanism is an important platform for examining the human rights situation in member states, assessing government's performance in promoting and protecting the rights of its citizens, and to share and exchange views on addressing the challenges faced in this regard. We, therefore, appreciate this opportunity to engage once again with the UPR Working Group.

A large number of delegations participated in our UPR this afternoon and provided constructive suggestions, comments as well as

recommendations. We highly value these and will give serious consideration to them as we strengthen our efforts to promote and protect human rights. We regret that time did not permit us to respond and provide answers to all the comments and questions raised during the interactive dialogue, but we assure you that we will give due consideration to all of them. These, along with the outcome of today's review, will serve as an important reference in our efforts to further advance the human rights and fundamental freedoms of our people. The recommendations will be carefully examined and effected by the concerned agencies of the Royal Government as appropriate.

Bhutan continues to take significant measures towards fulfilling our international human rights obligations and securing the fundamental rights of our people as enshrined in our Constitution. We would like to reiterate the strong commitment of the Royal Government of Bhutan to pursue the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights of its citizens. However, as in all countries, much remains to be done and like all developing countries, Bhutan also faces many challenges and constraints that we have yet to overcome. We have spelt these out during the interactive dialogue today.

In conclusion, we would like to once again thank all the delegations for their participation in our review today and on our part we reiterate our commitment to further strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights in our country.

I thank you, Mr. President.