

My delegation would like to join other colleagues in welcoming the delegation of Brunei Darussalam and his delegation. We commend the delegation for the exhaustive presentation of human rights situation in the country.

Mr. President, Brunei Dar-us-Salam has made significant progress in the area of education, healthcare, housing, human development and decent living standards. This will have definite and positive bearing on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly on the economic, social and cultural rights.

Mr. President, we have also noted that Brunei Darussalam is not party to some core human rights treaties. Despite the fact, that the government has been able to ensure and promote and protect human rights of its citizens, including in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights, it would reflect the commitment and achievements of the government more, if the country becomes party to some of the treaties. Hence, we would encourage the government to consider acceding to some core human rights treaties to which it is not yet party.

Mr. President, many of the social ills today can be overcome through promoting family as a fundamental institution of the society and by nurturing traditional family values. Brunei exhibits an impressive record in this area. We encourage the country to continue to pursue its social policies upholding the institution of family while in keeping with family values.