

Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Office of the United Nations and to the other International Organizations Geneva

United Nations Human Rights Council

19th Session of the UPR Working Group

Geneva, 05 May 2014

German recommendations to Costa Rica

National Statement of Germany

Mister President,

Germany acknowledges the commitment Costa Rica has made in regard to the realization of human rights. In this spirit, we acknowledge that Costa Rica has ratified several international human rights treaties since the last UPR session.

Nevertheless, Germany would like to recommend the following:

<u>Firstly</u>, while we welcome the adoption of a rights-based National Policy for Children and Adolescents, Germany remains concerned about the protection of children and the effective establishment of such protective mechanisms at the local level.

We therefore recommend that Costa Rica further enforces the implementation of a comprehensive child protection system, especially for those suffering from violence, forced labor and sexual exploitation.

Secondly and moreover, we recommend that Costa Rica ensure stronger coordination between entities dealing with issues relating to children and to provide sufficient resources at the national as well as local level, including the provision of temporary shelters.

Thirdly, Germany is concerned about overcrowding in the prison system, in particular considering the high number of children and adolescents in detention centers and penal institutions.

We recommend therefore that Costa Rica takes further action to improve prison conditions, especially to account for the specific needs of women and children in detention.

Thank you.

