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Italian intervention

**UPR – Cote d'Ivoire
(29/04/2014)**

1.25.55

Thank you, Mister President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished delegation of Cote d'Ivoire and thanks it for its report and today's presentation.

Italy welcomes the efforts carried out so far by Cote d'Ivoire in order to promote reconciliation in the country, whose success is strongly linked to the advancements in the protection of human rights. To this end, Italy **recommends** Cote d'Ivoire ^{To ensure THAT} ~~that~~ all the initiatives taken in the field of reconciliation comply with international standards on human rights, beginning with a comprehensive fight against impunity.

Traditional harmful practices are still common in the Country, even if illegal. Italy **recommends** Cote d'Ivoire to increase its efforts through targeted and comprehensive measures, especially in education, in order to eliminate traditional harmful practices, such as female genital mutilations and early and forced marriages.

Italy shares the concerns about the recurrent episodes of child trafficking and child labour, as well as the increase in the number of women and girls forced into prostitution. Therefore, Italy **recommends** that Cote d'Ivoire intensify the initiatives aimed at both preventing child and women trafficking, child labour, forced prostitution, and facilitating the social re-integration of the victims.

Finally, in commending Cote d'Ivoire for its commitment in favor of civil society and human rights defenders in the Human Rights Council, Italy **recommends** Cote d'Ivoire to step-up its efforts to protect civil society space within the country.

I thank you