

**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other
International Organizations**

Geneva, 29 April 2013

2nd UPR cycle – Report of Cote d' Ivoire

**Statement by H.E. Zorica Maric Djordjevic - Ambassador of Montenegro to
the UN HRC**

Montenegro warmly welcomes distinguished (head of delegation) and the delegation of Cote d' Ivoire.

We appreciate that Cote d' Ivoire ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court during the review period. Can the Government of Cote d'Ivoire elaborate on the efforts undertaken to improve cooperation with International Criminal Court, as well as to strengthen national institutions, including the judiciary and police in order to address impunity and to bring to justice all those who have committed crimes in the previous period?

We welcome your efforts to combat female genital mutilation. Montenegro encourages your Government to intensify implementation of provisions that prohibit female genital mutilation through prosecutions and convictions in that regard! However, we note CEDAW's concerns on the persistence of forced and early marriages and polygamy and we ask about your Government's plans to enforce laws that prohibit such practices?

Montenegro recommends Cote d' Ivoire;

- 1) To ratify the Second Optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
- 2) To extend a standing invitation to all UN Human Rights Council special procedures.