UPR of Cote d'Ivoire - Statement made by Norway

Norway would like to thank the delegation from Côte d'Ivoire for their presentation of the national report and for its statement here today.

We note the reported negative impact of the post-election crisis of 2010 on the capacity of the Government to improve the human rights situation. We welcome steps taken by the Government of Cote d'Ivoire to promote and protect human rights in a challenging situation.

Norway is concerned with the reported use of arbitrary detention in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as the capacity, availability, affordability and the independence of the courts. We recommend that Côte d'Ivoire ends all arbitrary detention and strengthen the capacity on the judicial system as addressed in the country report following the previous Universal Periodic Review.

We wish to compliment efforts made to combat child labour, including trafficking, through the Department of the Fight against Child Labour and the National Monitoring Committee on Actions to Fight Trafficking, Exploitation and Child Labour (NMC).

We are concerned with the high prevalence of female genital mutilation (FGM), especially in northern and north-western regions, and we **recommend** continued and strengthened efforts towards enforcing the law on this issue.

Norway is concerned that the level of reported cases of violence, including sexual violence, against women and girls remains high. We compliment actions on coordinating support to victims, and recommend that necessary steps are taken to enforce laws covering these issues to ensure that perpetrators are sanctioned.