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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

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Human Rights Council- 19<sup>th</sup> Session of Universal Periodic Review UPR  
Statement of the Republic of South Sudan on UPR of the Democratic Republic of Congo  
29<sup>th</sup> April, 2014

Mr. President,

South Sudan welcomes the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Congo and commends its presentation in this second UPR cycle.

We note with appreciation the excellent achievements being made in implementing a number of recommendations of the first cycle of UPR. We acknowledge the efforts of the Government of Democratic Republic of Congo in making these crucial developments, towards strengthening promotion and protection of human rights, despite of difficulties and constraints.

We recognize DRC's ratification and accession to some regional and international human rights instruments. We acknowledge the role of DRC government in combating torture and criminalizing it as separate offence. We welcome the establishment of National Human Rights Commission.

Women as a vulnerable group still suffer from sexual violence and other forms of violation against women, in this regard; we are fully impressed by the roles taken by government to fight all forms of violation towards women by implementing the Zero Tolerance Now policy against sexual and gender based violence, and also commend DRC on establishment of the National Agency to Combat Violence against Women and Girls.

South Sudan recommends to DRC the following.

- a. Establish national preventive mechanism to prevent torture.
- b. Exert more efforts to provide care to the victims of sexual violence in collaboration and assistance with its partners and international community.

Finally, we wish every success to the DRC in implementing the second cycle of UPR.

I thank you,