

## STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA Review of the Democratic Republic of Congo 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council 28 April – 9 May 2014

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Congo to the 19<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council. We thank them for their presentation of its national report.

- 2. Malaysia is pleased to note the consultative approach taken by the DRC in the preparation of its national report, which include the holding of a number of consultations and workshops involving various stakeholders as well as UN partners and agencies. We note in this regard that progress has been made since the DRC's first UPR review, particularly on the inclusion of human rights standards in its national legislation. We also note positively the on-going efforts by the DRC in improving the rights of women and children, and commend the progress that it has achieved in setting up a National Human Rights Commission in 2013.
- 3. Malaysia recognizes the numerous challenges that continue to hinder the DRC from advancing the human rights of its people due to the recurrence of armed conflict. We nevertheless encourage the Government to continue its efforts to improve the human rights situation in the country.
- 4. In the spirit of constructive engagement, Malaysia wishes to make the following **three** recommendations:
  - 4.1. One: to improve access for women and girls to basic health-care services;
  - 4.2. Two: to continue its efforts in providing free primary education for all throughout the country; and
  - 4.3. Three: to allocate adequate funding to improve its education system.

I thank you.

GENEVA 29 April 2014