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**PERMANENT MISSION OF MONTENEGRO TO THE UN, WTO AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

April 29, 2014

**Universal Periodic Review – 19th Session – Democratic Republic of the
Congo**

Statement by the Special Representative - Ambassador of Montenegro to the
HRC Zorica Maric Djordjevic

Montenegro would like to welcome [head of delegation] and the delegation from
the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Human Rights Council. We thank
you for your engagement with the UPR process.

Montenegro would like to commend the Democratic Republic of the Congo for its
efforts to address problems concerning violence against women. We welcome
the Government's adoption of a national strategy against its gender-based
violence (2009-2010) and its work to make operational its national agency for
the elimination of violence against women. We would appreciate it if you could
elaborate on whether the Government plans to take additional steps to address
sexual violence and to aid victims.

We further appreciate that the Democratic Republic of the Congo cooperates
with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council and other relevant
mechanisms and that it responds favourably to requests for visits by mandate
holders.

Montenegro recommends:

1. Montenegro recommends that the Government formalize its acceptance of the
special procedures by issuing a standing invitation.
2. Montenegro recommends that the government adopt a law abolishing the
death penalty.

Montenegro also hopes that Democratic Republic of the Congo will continue to
have productive and successful engagement with the UPR process. We thank
you again.