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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
19TH SESSION UPR WORKING GROUP
REVIEW OF ETHIOPIA
6 MAY 2014

Statement by Nigeria

Mr President,

Nigeria warmly welcomes the delegation of Ethiopia to the Human Rights Council and thanks them for their national report. We acknowledge the continued constructive engagement of Ethiopia with the OHCHR. Nigeria welcomes the expressed commitment by Ethiopia, aimed at promoting and protecting the human rights of its people.

Nigeria is encouraged that Ethiopia has opened six branch offices of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission in the country and has translated human rights instruments into Amharic, Oromiffa, Tigrigna, Somali and Afar languages in line with recommendations it received during the first cycle. We urge the Government of Ethiopia to prioritize the establishment of a free atmosphere that enshrines fundamental rights and basic freedoms for all Ethiopians.

We wish to make the following recommendations for Ethiopia's consideration:

1. Ethiopia should remain committed to allowing to political parties equitable access to free airtime on public Radio and TV as well as publishing space in the print media;
2. Improve engagement with civil society groups, including youth and women associations to boost human rights;
3. Strengthen the anti-terrorism proclamation by incorporating its capacity with other African States to fight the scourge of terror.

My delegation wishes Ethiopia a successful review.

I thank you.