



## **SIERRA LEONE**

### **19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

Ethiopia

### **STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR YVETTE STEVENS**

6 May 2014

Mr. President,

Sierra Leone warmly welcomes the high-level delegation of Ethiopia and thanks Ethiopia for its national report highlighting commendable developments since its last UPR including actions such as the National Human Rights Action Plan, and the Growth and Transformation Plan.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Strengthen ongoing efforts to bring the EHRC into conformity with the Paris Principles.
- Continue efforts to improve the social sectors, including through technical assistance.
- Consider ratifying The Kampala Convention on IDPs and draw up a plan of action for IDPs.
- Consider lifting the reservations made to articles 17 to 19 (on employment, self-employment and liberal professions) of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

Ethiopia is the fastest growing non-oil producing economy in Africa and has a GDP of 10.9% - and rising. This makes Ethiopia an excellent example of how good governance, diaspora involvement, sound policies and strategies can support and advance national development and social justice.

Ethiopia has also played a key role in hosting refugees, peace talks and in the fight against terrorism

Sierra Leone wishes Ethiopia a successful outcome.

Mr. President,

I thank you.