

(Check against delivery)

**Bangladesh statement during the UPR of Portugal**

Bangladesh delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of Portugal. We commend the Government of Portugal for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

Mr. President,

Portugal is known for its commitment for the promotion and protection of human rights. As it strives to improve the human rights situation in the country, so it also engages itself actively in the global discourses in the Human Rights Council. Portugal is in the frontline in Europe in promoting and protecting economic, social and cultural rights. We would also like to commend the country for its hosting of migrants and for promoting managed migration. This can be cited as a good example for other countries in the region. However, the country is also not an exception in having difficulties in promoting and protecting human rights, in particular that of the migrants. We are concerned about reports by different treaty bodies of ill-treatment of the migrants. CERD expressed concern at the responses of Portugal to the current financial and economic crises which can increase poverty or give rise to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances against foreigners and immigrants among others.

In this context we would recommend that,

1. Portugal redoubles its efforts to fight racial discrimination, including through the support to relevant non-governmental organizations.
2. It eliminates all forms of discrimination against the Roma, migrants and asylum seekers ; and
3. Portugal condemn racist and xenophobic speech made by the politicians and promote tolerance and diversity.

We wish Portugal a successful and productive UPR.

SHELLEY SALEHIN  
FIRST VCL.