



REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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UPR Working Group
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Universal Periodic Review of Qatar

**Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova
Delivered by Ms. Olga Bogdan, 2nd Secretary
(Geneva, 7 May 2014)**

Mr. President,

We would like to join previous speakers in welcoming the high-level delegation of Qatar and thank the head of the delegation for the presentation of the Report.

The Republic of Moldova commends Qatar for the progress achieved and ongoing efforts aimed at promoting respect for human rights, in particular in such areas as ensuring the right to education and health, combating human trafficking and discrimination against women, and children's rights. We also acknowledge the positive effects generated by the enactment of new laws and establishment of several institutions in the field of human rights.

We take note of the measures aimed at guaranteeing the rights of migrant workers and would be interested to learn more about actions to provide them with legal protection and access to justice. We encourage Qatar to continue its efforts of informing workers of their rights and duties, as initiated by a guidance and counseling team in 2012, as well as to ensure the efficiency of the reform of the sponsorship system in practice.

Furthermore, the delegation of the Republic of Moldova welcomes legal and institutional developments in combating human trafficking, including through the creation of the *Qatar Foundation to Combat Human Trafficking*, the enactment of the *Human Trafficking Act*, and the adoption of the *National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons 2010-2015*. However, we note concerns of Treaty Bodies that gaps in fully addressing this issue remain.

In this context, we recommend Qatar to continue providing protection to victims of trafficking in human beings and to ensure systematic procedures for the identification of these victims.

I thank you, Mr. President.