

**SIERRA LEONE**

**19th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

Qatar

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR YVETTE STEVENS**

7 May 2014

Mr. President,

Sierra Leone welcomes the delegation of the State of Qatar and thanks them for the presentation of its UPR report to the Working Group.

Qatar has been an important contributor of foreign assistance which exceeded US$800million in 2012, providing grants and support to over 100 countries.

As a destination country for migrants, my delegation would like to commend Qatar on the existing laws which combat the trafficking in persons through, *inter alia,* awareness-raising campaigns. Nevertheless, my delegation would like to urge Qatar to further efforts to comprehensively protect the rights of migrant workers, in particular female domestic workers, and strengthen accountability mechanisms to dissuade perpetrators of violence against women.

Sierra Leone would make the following recommendations:

* Qatar should ratify the ICCPR and the ICESCR and the ICRMW.
* Qatar should ratify ILO Conventions No. 169 (on indigenous and tribal peoples) and No. 189 (on domestic workers).
* Facilitate women’s access to justice and mainstream a gender-based approach to justice and employment.
* Continue maintaining its commitment to devote 0.7 per cent of its GNI to overseas development assistance to assist in the economic and social rights of poor countries, thus contributing to the

In conclusion, Sierra Leone wishes Qatar a productive final outcome.

Mr. President,

I thank you.