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Statement by H.E. Archbishop Silvano M. Tomasi, Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva
at the the United Nations Human Rights Council –
20th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
ANGOLA
Geneva, 30 October 2014

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of Angola on the occasion of the presentation of the second National Report to the Universal Periodic Review.

The Delegation of the Holy See commends Angola for the approval of its new Constitution in 2010 and welcomes the numerous positive steps introduced since its presentation to the first UPR which favour the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as the strengthening of national institutions and legislation that cooperate and collaborate with the international organizations.

My Delegation acknowledges Angola, in particular, for the progress achieved through the implementation of the “National Action Plan for Education for All” resulting in a marked increase of children attending school. Also commendable are the programs that have been introduced to advance the quality of health care, especially through improving food, water and sanitation and the effort to assist those suffering from HIV. The new initiatives to secure the right to adequate housing, especially for displaced and migrant peoples, are a wonderful practice that should continue.

My Delegation wishes to present the following recommendations to the Delegation of Angola:

- To take further steps to reform the judicial and penal system through the training of detention and prison staff, and the creation of adequate incarceration centers so as to avoid the abuse of arbitrary detention and to eliminate the excessive use of force by the penitentiary personnel.
- To continue the efforts to improve the health care especially of children and the elderly persons, as well as those suffering from HIV.
- To increase its efforts in protecting the human rights of the poor and the disadvantaged, particularly women and children, which much care and attention.
- To give a proper follow-up to the resolution which forbids the forced evictions of persons and to defend the rights of the displaced and indigenous people.

Thank you Mr. President.