

DPR Mr. Renne Klinge

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MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

20th Session of the UPR working group

Questions and recommendations by Finland to Egypt

5 November 2014

Mr. President,

Finland wishes to thank Egypt for the UPR-report and its presentation today.

Finland wishes to make the following two recommendations:

- That Egypt fully implements its international obligations to ensure the protection of human rights defenders and other civil society actors while exercising their human rights, including the freedoms of expression, association and assembly.
- That Egypt in compliance with international human rights law amends, adopts and effectively implements legislation to eliminate all forms of discrimination and criminalize all forms of violence against women and girls. We call upon Egypt to ensure that all cases of sexual violence and harassment faced by women protesters and human rights defenders must be promptly investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice.

We remain extremely concerned about the treatment of the civil society and human rights organizations, which have been marginalized and have faced threats and reprisals. Finland appeals to Egypt to facilitate and to support the non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors in their important work.

Thank you.