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STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Fiji
20th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
27 October – 7 November 2014

Thank you Mr. Vice President,

Malaysia warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Fiji, led by His Excellency Attorney General Mr. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyom, to the 20th Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

2. During Fiji's first review, Malaysia made recommendations for the Fijian Government to enhance and, where appropriate, review the implementation of medium and long term strategies of the Strategic Development Plan, the 2020 Plan for Indigenous Fijians, the National Policy for Persons Living with Disability and the national AIDS Strategy. We are very much pleased with the response that the Government of Fiji has provided and are impressed with the progress that it has made in implementing these policies and plans. Additionally, we welcome the positive update by the Government in promoting and protecting the rights of Fijians in the areas of education, ICT and housing as well as children's rights and women empowerment.

3. Malaysia takes positive note of the significant progress that the Fijian Government has made in the promulgation of the Constitution along with its comprehensive Bill of Rights. We commend the Government's efforts in ensuring a free and fair election. We are also encouraged to note that Fiji has been increasingly receptive in engaging with the international community and has continued to engage international stakeholders and partners.

4. In the spirit of constructive engagement, my delegation would like to propose the following **two** recommendations for the consideration of Fiji:

- 4.1. **One:** to continue its efforts to provide free education for primary and secondary school students; and
- 4.2. **Two:** to continue its efforts in promoting gender equality including expanding the role of women in its national development by providing the necessary financial and human resources to strengthen the implementation of policies and programmes for the empowerment of women in social and public life.

I thank you.

GENEVA
29 October 2014