

(Check against delivery)

Statement of Bangladesh delegation during the UPR of Fiji

Thank you Mr. President.

Four years back Fiji undertook a commendable job by accepting and embarking upon implementation of 97 out of 103 recommendations during its first review cycle. We have noted the stride the country has made in last four years in protecting and promoting human rights in the country through various institutional, legislative and other measures in line with these accepted recommendations.

Mr. President, my delegation acknowledges the challenges and constraints faced by Fiji. Like my country, Fiji is vulnerable to natural disaster and climate change. Global warming and its resultant erratic climate behavior pose a serious threat to the country like ours. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Fiji has seen a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of flash floods and tropical cyclones in the last 5 years.

We are happy to note the progresses made by Fiji in the promotion and protection of human rights despite these challenges. Significant progress has been made by the Government since the first review cycle in 2010, one of such remarkable headway is the promulgation of the Constitution. Significant progress has also been made in improving the health and well-being of women and children, and in increase in resources for education.

Mr. President, despite these progresses made, my delegation has noted the concerns expressed by various Treaty Bodies. In particular, we have noted the concern expressed at the unequal status of women in public life and decision making, as well as at the persistence of violence against women.

In view of the above, my delegation would like to recommend to the government of Fiji:

1. To take concrete measures to eliminate gender stereotypes and discrimination against women; and
2. To strengthen efforts to eliminate racial discrimination.

I thank you Mr. President.