



**STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA**  
**Review of Gambia**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council**  
**27 October – 7 November 2014**

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Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of The Gambia to the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

2. Malaysia takes positive note on The Gambia's on-going policies and programmes initiated by the Government to further enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights of its people. In particular, we are pleased that the Government had enacted the Women's Bill in 2010 and had thereafter formulated the National Gender and Women Empowerment Policy 2010-2020 to promote and protect women's right. We also laud the passing of the Domestic Violence Act and Sexual Offences Act in 2013 that aim to address violence against women and girls. We also note the significant improvements that have been made in the areas of education, health and poverty eradication, as well as on children's right.

3. My delegation acknowledges the various challenges that The Gambia is facing in upholding the fundamental freedoms of its people. We nevertheless are confident that The Gambia would do its utmost to address those challenges.

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

- 4.1. **One:** to provide the necessary financial and human resources to strengthen the implementation of policies and programmes for the empowerment of women in social and public life; and
- 4.2. **Two:** to continue its positive approach in combating poverty by providing the necessary support in rural infrastructure and its national employment policy to reduce unemployment.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**GENEVA**  
**28 October 2014**