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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
20th Session of the UPR Working Group
Review of Iraq
3 November 2014

Statement by Nigeria

Mr President,

Nigeria welcomes the Iraqi delegation to the Human Rights Council and wishes to state its solidarity with them for their cooperation and continued engagement with the UPR process and the Office of the High Commissioner Human Rights.

We applaud the Iraqi Government for the establishment of Human Rights Institutions, in particular, the founding of the Ministry of Human Rights. Nigeria is encouraged by the enactment of human rights conventions from 2010 - 2014. We believe that this will be significant in reducing human rights abuses and in disseminating human rights culture and education, going forward. The Iraqi adoption of the Social Protection Act, which is consistent with international social protection regimes is commendable.

Recognizing that Iraq has been through tenuous moments in its recent political history; not to mention the brutal campaign by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, which is yet to abate, we recommend the Iraqi Government to

- i. Engender a convivial political atmosphere in order to facilitate speedy reconciliation among all religious, political and minority groups;
- ii. Redouble efforts toward providing education for Women and the Girl Child; and

- iii. Step up processes that would raise the level of health care to all Iraqis

We wish Iraq every success.

I thank you.