20th Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Madagascar

Statement by Rwanda delivered by Moses Rugema

Thank you Mr. President.

- 1. Rwanda warmly welcomes the delegation of Madagascar and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.
- 2. Rwanda welcomes the progress Madagascar has registered in its transition to democracy and in the consolidation of the Rule of Law. Rwanda notes with appreciation the efforts undertaken by Madagascar to alleviate poverty and improve the social and economic situation of its people.
- 3. Rwanda welcomes Madagascar's signing of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR in 2012 on the Abolition of the Death Penalty and looks forward to its speedy ratification (We thank the delegation for the update in this regard) We commend Madagascar's continued efforts to promote gender equality and combat sexual and gender based violence. We further commend Madagascar's efforts to fight trafficking in persons and in particular child trafficking.

Rwanda would like to make the following recommendations:

- Consider ratifying the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (We thank the delegation for the update in this regard)
- · In collaboration with the International community, intensify efforts to combat trafficking of persons particularly children
- Intensify efforts to ensure gender equality and eliminate Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

We wish Madagascar every success in the implementation of the recommendations of this UPR. Thank you.