

*20<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group*

*Review of Madagascar*

*Statement by Armenia*

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We welcome the delegation of Madagascar and we appreciate the commitment to promote human rights in the country with which Madagascar engaged with the UPR process.

We note the improvements in the country since its first review. However, we acknowledge that there still remain a number of challenges to be addressed. We are concerned that Madagascar has not yet ratified numerous important human rights instruments, among which the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

We welcome the steps directed towards the promotion and protection of the right to education. However, we are concerned that the crises affected children's enrolment in school and that significant number of children abandoned school. We hope that with the new programs and activities the Government has initiated it will be possible to ensure children's access to education.

We welcome the literacy programs for street children, the promotion of the right to education for children with disabilities, as well as the incorporation of the international human rights instruments and gender equality in schools, technical and vocational training colleges.

We have 2 recommendations for Madagascar:

- 1) To accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
- 2) To ensure the access to education, including to primary education, particularly for the most vulnerable children.