**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 21ST SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW - STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE GHANA DELEGATION ON THE SECOND CYCLE REVIEW OF KIRIBATI**

**MONDAY 19 JANUARY 2015**

Ghana wishes to welcome the presence and participation of the distinguished delegation of Kiribati in the second cycle of the UPR process.

We note the legislative measures undertaken by the Government of Kiribati to incorporate human rights principles into its national legislation and also applaud the acts and policies measures enacted to improve education and the welfare of the family. Ghana also commends Kiribati for taking measures to address sexual and gender-based violence, and protect vulnerable segments of society, including children, the youth, the disabled. The meritorious efforts by Kiribati to promote the participation of women in politics and increase the number of women recruited into the Police Service, must be sustained.

Ghana wishes to recommend that Kiribati considers the ratification of the following:

* International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (**ICRMW**)
* The Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court (**ICC**)
* The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (**CAT**)

Ghana also recommends that Kiribati considers issuing Standing Invitations to all Special Procedures.

Thank you, Mr. President.