



STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Sweden
21st Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
19 – 30 January 2015

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Sweden to the 21st Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the comprehensive presentation of their national report.

2. Malaysia is encouraged with the efforts made by Sweden to implement various recommendations accepted at its first UPR. We acknowledge that progress have been made in many areas including in the promotion and protection of the rights of person with disabilities.

3. We note that the Government of Sweden has also engaged in regular dialogue with religious associations in the efforts to combat xenophobia and religious intolerances including Islamophobia. Despite this initiative, my delegation notes that Sweden still faces the challenges of racism, intolerance and xenophobic attitudes towards non-citizens and other minorities, including hate crimes against members of religious minorities particularly Muslims.

4. In this regard, my delegation would like to propose the following **two** recommendations for the consideration of Sweden:

- 4.1. **One:** To take more effective measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against minority groups in the country, in particular prejudice against the Muslims;
- 4.2. **Two:** To double its efforts in fostering national unity and harmony including by intensifying dialogues promoting deeper understanding among societies of different ethnic and faith, addressing the negative portrayal in the media of members of the Muslim community and criminalizing hate speech and all forms of incitement to hatred and violence.

5. Finally, we wish Sweden every success in its second cycle of the UPR.

Thank you.

GENEVA
26 January 2015