



STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Belarus
22nd Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
4-15 May 2015

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Belarus to the 22nd Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

2. My delegation is encouraged to note that Malaysia's recommendations relating to, *inter alia*, engagement with civil society, establishment of an NHRI, poverty alleviation and women rights, were accepted by Belarus ^{during} its first cycle UPR. Malaysia notes the efforts and progress made by Belarus in those areas since its first review. We note the efforts made to conduct a study on the establishment of a national human rights institution in Belarus. We hope that the study would be concluded soon and would like to reiterate our **recommendation** for Belarus to consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. We view the establishment of an NHRI would further strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

3. We also note the efforts and progress made by Belarus in strengthening its legislative and institutional measures on human rights. We note positively Belarus continued efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child through the implementation of its National Plan of Action to Improve the Situation and Protect the Rights of Children for the period 2012-2016.

4. Like in many other countries, we note that challenges remain. In this regard, and in the spirit of constructive engagement, my delegation would like to propose the following **two** additional recommendations:

- 4.1. **One:** To continue strengthening its efforts in ensuring the well-being of children, particularly those living in foster care, so as they could enjoy living in a healthy family environment; and
- 4.2. **Two:** To intensify efforts in combating domestic violence and violence against women including through effective implementation of its Principles of Crime Prevention Act of 4 January 2014.

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

Thank you.

GENEVA
4 May 2015