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**German questions and recommendations to
Liberia**

Mr. President,

we thank the Government of Liberia for its national report.

Germany welcomes the efforts of Liberia to improve the human rights situation in the country and the progress made so far, in particular the establishment of the Independent National Human Rights Commission, the Independent Information Commission, as well as the launch of the Reconciliation Roadmap and the National Human Rights Action plan. Moreover, we appreciate the adoption of the Freedom of Information Act, which we hope will further guarantee freedom of expression. At the same time, Germany is concerned that some areas have not yet improved.

Germany therefore makes the following recommendations:

1. We recommend that Liberia abolish the death penalty it has reintroduced in law. We note that this violates the 2nd Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that Liberia has ratified.
2. Germany recommends that the Government of Liberia strengthen its efforts to end discrimination against women by incorporating the principle of equality into the Constitution in the context of its Constitutional Review. In this context, Germany welcomes that the delegates of the National Constitutional Review Conference approved integrating the principle of equal representation of women in the constitution.

3. With regard to the rule of law, Germany recommends that Liberia launch informative programs to raise awareness of anti-corruption mechanisms, such as the Professional Standard Division (PSD), as well as increase the funding of such institutions.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Questions submitted in advance:

1. Following the first UPR review, Liberia established the Independent National Commission of Human Rights (INCHR) in accordance with the Paris Principles. It still lacks an adequate financial and administrative structure, however. Germany would appreciate additional information about the current status of funding and would like to know how the Government of Liberia intends to ensure the independence of the INCHR.
2. The Reconciliation Roadmap and the National Human Rights Action plan were launched by Liberia in 2012 and 2013. Germany would like to know what measures Liberia contemplates to guarantee their implementation.

