

Statement of Kenya
on the review of Liberia
22nd Session of the UPR Working Group
Monday, 4th May 2015
2.30 pm
Room XX
Palais des Nations
Geneva

Read by
 James Kihwaga
 Minister-Counselor
 Kenya Mission

Mr. /Ms. President,

Kenya extends a warm welcome to the high-level delegation of Liberia to this 2nd cycle of the UPR.

We thank them for the comprehensive and thorough presentation of their national report.

We have taken note that despite a myriad of challenges, Liberia is firmly committed to fulfilling her human rights obligations, and has continued to enjoy notable achievements, most importantly the re-institution and strengthening of a democratic culture and political stability.

We take note also of:

the launching in December 2012, of the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

the creation in October 2010, of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights;

the launching in December 2013, of the National Human Rights Action Plan to undertake a comprehensive strategy to improve implementation of Liberia's human rights obligations; and

the creation of the Independent Information Commission (IIE) in 2013, to strengthen the protection of the right to information and the right to freedom of expression.

Kenya commends Liberia for these efforts. We also welcome the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the African Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa; and we urge Liberia to domesticate and fully implement their provisions.

Recommendation

We welcome the recent efforts to harmonize Liberia's domestic legislation with other international treaties. In particular, we note the passage of the Children's Law and the New Education Reform Act, which now embrace key provisions of the CRC and CEDAW. In this regard, **Kenya recommends that Liberia take steps to harmonize her nationality laws in order to provide women with the right to pass on their rights of nationality to children born abroad, on an equal basis with men.**

I thank you.