



May 4, 2015

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA GENEVA

The 22nd Session of the UPR Working Group Review of the Republic of Liberia Geneva, May 4, 2015 <Check against delivery>

Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Korean delegation would like to extend its appreciation for the consistent efforts of Liberia to enhance the human rights situation in the country especially within the context of such global emergency situation as the Ebola crisis.

In addition, we would like to highlight the establishment of the Constitution Review Committee in 2012. We believe that this mechanism will ensure a more robust human rights-compliant Constitution.

Also, it is noteworthy that Liberia has made efforts to ensure the reform of the justice and security sectors by establishing five regional justice and security hubs, introducing the Magistrates' Sitting Programme, enhancing prison conditions, preparing a Police Bill for the Legislature and conducting a training of judiciary prosecutors.

However, in the hope that Liberia will continue to build upon the current achievements, my delegation would like to make a few recommendations as follows.

First, continue to criminalize and ultimately eradicate sexual and gender-based violence such as female genital mutilation and harmful traditional practices, including trials by ordeal.

Second, put forward more efforts to protect victims of Ebola and seek solutions for the human rights concerns arising from discrimination and stigmatization of patients, victims, survivors and health workers.

Finally, take necessary measures to develop internal governance procedures in order that the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) could perform its mandated role, in particular, by ensuring adequate funding to the Commission. Thank you. /End/