22nd Session of the UPR Working Group Review of the USA

Statement by Rwanda delivered by H.E. Dr. François-Xavier Ngarambe, Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Thank you Mr. President.

Rwanda warmly welcomes the delegation of the USA and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

Rwanda takes positive note that in the last past five years, Department of Justice has criminally prosecuted more than 335 individual police officers for misconduct, including excessive use of force. While we welcome the strong condemnations from the top of the US federal government of those violations, we remain concerned about the growing tension between police and African-American communities mainly.

Rwanda welcomes the increasing number of states that had abolished the death penalty in the USA. However we remain concerned about the continuing use of the death penalty and about racial disparities in its imposition.

Rwanda has the following recommendations:

- To continue efforts to strengthen police-community relations
- To work towards a moratorium on executions with a view of abolishing death penalty nationwide.
- To establish a human rights institution at the federal level
- To increase measures to combat discrimination

We wish the USA every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted at this UPR.

I thank you