

(Check against delivery)

Bangladesh statement on the UPR of Austria

09 November 2015

My delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of Austria. Austria has pioneered in many areas of human rights nationally, while it champions internationally as the host of VDPA. As Austria is commended for its role in hosting the VDPA, we would like to emphasize that VDPA reaffirms the right to development, as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights and it also expresses solemn commitment of the international community to an increased and sustained effort of international cooperation and solidarity. It is therefore, regrettable that despite our recommendation to increase the ODA during the 1st cycle of Austria's UPR, the ODA of Austria has rather decreased from 0.47 per cent of GNI to 0.28 per cent in 2012. In this regard, we recommend that Austria brings ODA up to the internationally committed 0.7% of GNI.

We also have taken note of its efforts to contribute in the dialogue between cultures and religions through hosting the 5th Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations.

However, it is discomfoting to note that many challenges in the field of promotion and protection of human rights still exist in Austria, as mentioned by many treaty bodies and UN mechanisms. CEDAW expressed concern in various reports at discrimination against Muslims, Roma and migrants and at increased xenophobic violence and hatred against migrant women, particularly targeting Muslim and/or black women. We therefore, recommend Austria to consider ratifying the Convention on the rights of Migrant workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW).