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**Statement by Pakistan for the UPR of Mauritania**

(23rd Session of the Working Group on UPR)

3rd November 2015

Mr. President,

My delegation would like to thank the delegation of Mauritania for the presentation of its 2nd national report on UPR.

We appreciate the steps taken by Mauritania for the protection and promotion of human rights in the last 4 years. It is encouraging to note that it has made concerted efforts to implement majority of the recommendations received during the 1st cycle of the UPR.

We commend the 2012 constitutional review which led to significant improvements in the regulatory and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, including formal recognition of the cultural and linguistic diversity of the country, definition of slavery and torture as crimes against humanity and according constitutional status to the National Human Rights Commission. We also appreciate Mauritania's accession to human rights instruments, i.e., International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Continue to implement National Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming and promote women empowerment; and
2. Continue to make efforts to implement National Child Protection Strategy.

I thank you.