

Statement by the Republic of Cyprus on

Mauritania

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes Mauritania's participation in the 2nd cycle of the UPR and thanks its authorities for the national report submitted, as well as for the presentation before us today.

This delegation welcomes the accession of Mauritania, since its previous review, to a number of international human rights legal instruments. While noting the designation of slavery by Mauritanian authorities, as crime against humanity, we remain gravely concerned with the high prevalence of slavery in the country.

Cyprus has three recommendations to make for the consideration of Mauritania:

1. Take further measures towards combating slavery and in particular investigate allegations of slavery and prosecute and punish the perpetrators of that offence.
2. Take all necessary steps towards acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
3. Revise its national legislation and bring it in compliance with its international human rights obligations.

I thank you.