

Human Rights Council
23rd session of the UPR working group, 2-13 November 2015
Review of Nepal
Intervention by Denmark

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the presentation by the Nepalese delegation.

Denmark welcomes the Caste Based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act from 2011. However, discrimination based on gender, caste, ethnicity, and religion is still widespread despite some progress made with the new Constitution.

Denmark recommends that Nepal ensures full and effective implementation of the 2011 Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act.

The Constitution of 2015 states that torture is a punishable act, but authorities have failed to provide information on investigations, prosecutions, convictions, and sanctions imposed on perpetrators. Nepal is a party to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment but has still not ratified the Optional Protocol.

Denmark therefore recommends that Nepal ratifies the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Nepal has carried out positive improvements regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Disappearance Act, however the implementation process remains slow.

Denmark therefore recommends that Nepal amends the 2014 Commission on Investigation of Disappeared Persons, Truth and Reconciliation Act (TRC) in compliance with the Supreme Court ruling of 26 February, 2015 in order to uphold international standards relating to accountability for gross violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law.

I thank you.