



January 26, 2016

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

The 24th Session of the UPR Working Group
Review of the Republic of Latvia
Geneva, January 26, 2016

<Check against delivery>

Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea acknowledges the Latvian government's commitment to the value of universal human rights through its upgrading of the current administrative, legislative and judicial institutions.

In particular, the Korean delegation welcomes the adoption of amendments to the Citizenship Law and to the Law on Enforcement of Sentences as well as the Gender Equality Action Plan 2012-2014 and the National Strategy for the Prevention of Human Trafficking 2014-2020.

With this in mind and in the hope that Latvia will continue to build upon current achievements, my delegation would like to make a few recommendations.

First, make efforts to adopt comprehensive legislation on violence against women with provisions on domestic violence and marital rape as specific offences in the Criminal Law and punish perpetrators as well as provide assistance and recovery for victims.

Second, continue efforts to prevent racist speech, violence and discrimination against vulnerable groups, including Roma by fighting racially motivated crimes and countering the use of racist discourse in politics and the media.

Finally, step up efforts to ensure the basic human rights of all detainees by improving the material condition in prison facilities and police detention centres as well as investigating cases regarding ill-treatment and violence in prisons and conducting trainings for prison officers.

Thank you. /End/