

NEW

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**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 24TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP
(18TH - 29TH JANUARY, 2016):**

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
OF LATVIA ON TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY, 2016**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GHANA DELIVERED BY MR. JOSEPH
OWUSU-ANSAH, FIRST SECRETARY, ON TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY, 2016**

I thank you Mr. President for giving me the floor.

Ghana warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Latvia to this Session. Ghana lauds the various measures adopted by Latvia to combat human trafficking, and violence against women,.

While Ghana notes the reduction of prisoners and detainees at detention centres in Latvia since the adoption of the criminal policy in 2013, Ghana is concerned about reports or allegations of the ill-treatment of suspects by law enforcement officials at the time of arrest and during investigations. In this regard, Ghana recommends to Latvia to take necessary measures to protect the rights of all persons held in custody and to bring law enforcement officials found culpable of torturing detainees to justice.

Ghana wishes to make the following recommendations for the kind consideration of Latvia:

- The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances; and
- The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;

Ghana wishes Latvia a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President