

(24)

Check against delivery

**Italian intervention**

**UPR – Niger  
18 January 2015**

*Merci M. le Président.*

*Je voudrais d'abord saluer la distinguée délégation du Niger, et la remercier pour la présentation de son rapport national.*

*L'Italie salue les avancées réalisées par le Niger et son engagement dans les questions relatives aux droits de l'Homme et dans le mécanisme de l'EPU. Nous apprécions particulièrement l'engagement envers l'éradication de la pauvreté, l'attention que le Niger attribue aux droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, et l'adoption du Plan de Développement Sanitaire. Nous voudrions aussi exprimer notre soutien pour la position de facto abolitionniste du Niger sur la question de la peine de mort.*

We would like to make the following **recommendations** to Niger:

- Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights).
- Intensify efforts to fully eradicate female genital mutilations, also by promoting awareness-raising and educational activities particularly targeted at local community leaders and health workers.
- Increase the minimum legal age for marriage for girls and develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to eliminate child, early and forced marriage and to support already married children and adolescent girls.
- Ensure effective implementation of the 2014 National Action Plan to combat trafficking in persons and related offences, including slavery.
- Ensure effective implementation of existing legislation to eradicate all forms of slavery, prosecute perpetrators and ensure effective access to justice for victims of slavery. Also, adopt and implement targeted measures to address the root causes of slavery, including poverty, inequality and customary norms.

I thank you