



**Statement by H.E. Archbishop Silvano M. Tomasi, Permanent Representative of the Holy See to
the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva at the United Nations
Human Rights Council - 24th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

PARAGUAY

Geneva, 20 January 2016

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of Paraguay on the occasion of the presentation of its second National Report to the Universal Periodic Review.

My Delegation acknowledges the advances made by the Paraguayan Government through the signing of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the ratification of the International Labor Organization Convention on Domestic Workers.

Moreover, my Delegation recognizes the various attempts made in order to improve and facilitate the communication capabilities between civil authorities and the indigenous communities, to reduce the phenomenon of extreme poverty and to curtail corruption and the trafficking in persons.

My Delegation would like to provide the following recommendations:

1. To make every possible effort to guarantee universal access to health through the National Health Policy.
2. To continue its efforts to improve the quality of the education system and to expand access to education for all children and adolescents, in particular for those belonging to indigenous peoples.
3. To improve the domestic legislation regarding working conditions, especially for women and young people.

Thank you, Mr. President.