

Italian intervention

**UPR – Seychelles
25 January 2015**

Thank you, Mr. President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Seychelles, and thank them for their national report and the presentation they shared with us today.

Italy commends Seychelles for their commitment to human rights and for the progress achieved since the last cycle of the UPR. Being aware of the impact of climate change on Small Island Developing Nations such as Seychelles, we welcome the Authorities' leadership and efforts on this issue, and the decision to progressively increase the use of renewable sources of energy.

We particularly praise the attention devoted to women's and children's rights the creation of dedicated instruments aimed at furthering their promotion and protection, and the priority assigned to education, including human rights education.

Believing that the promotion of gender equality and the elimination of violence against women are crucial in any society, Italy **recommends** that Seychelles finalize the National Gender Policy and its Plan of Action, so to further promote women's rights and create an enabling environment for women. We also **recommend** to ensure the participation of civil society in the drafting of a new law on domestic violence.

We take note with appreciation of the Government's commitment to protect the rights of all persons without subjecting them to any undue forms of discrimination. With the aim of combating any form of discrimination, especially that related to sexual orientation, we **recommend** Seychelles to reinforce the relevant legal framework in order to contrast discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

We wish Seychelles a successful UPR.

Thank you.