

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 25TH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW, GENEVA, (2ND - 13TH MAY, 2016):**

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL
PERIODIC REVIEW OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GHANA DELIVERED BY MR. JOSEPH
OWUSU-ANSAH, FIRST SECRETARY ON FRIDAY 6TH MAY, 2016**

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

Ghana welcomes the distinguished delegation of Papua New Guinea to the second cycle of the UPR. Ghana is gratified to note that Papua New Guinea has made significant national progress in promoting and protecting the human rights since the last review in 2011, including the establishment of the a Human Rights Court in 2013, among others.

Ghana also welcomes on-going efforts by Papua New Guinea to establish an independent National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, as well as the efforts to ratify the UN Convention against Torture.

Mr. President,

Ghana however remains concerned about alleged reports of sexual and physical assault on women and girls in Papua New Guinea even after the adoption of the Family Protection Act 2013. On this note, Ghana wishes to recommend to Papua New Guinea to ensure the effective implementation of the Family Protection Act including through investigations and prosecutions of perpetrators of violence against women.

Ghana further wishes to recommend to Papua New Guinea to ratify the following core international human rights treaties:

- i. The UN Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol;
- ii. The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families;
- iii. The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;
- iv. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and
- v. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women;

In conclusion, Mr. President, Ghana wishes Papua New Guinea a successful review. I thank you Mr. President.