



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

The 25th Session of UPR Working Group Review of Papua New Guinea <Check against delivery>
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Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Papua New Guinea and appreciates its comprehensive presentation. However, it is regrettable that their national report has not been duly submitted and circulated among Member States. We hope that the Government of Papua New Guinea will make sincere efforts to cooperate with human rights mechanisms, particularly the UPR, in the future.

We commend Papua New Guinea's overall progress that has been achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights since its first UPR review. Among others, we note with appreciation the ratification of the CRPD which was recommended by my delegation in the first UPR; the issuance of a standing invitation to the mandate holders of all special procedures of the Human Rights Council; and the enactment of the Family Protection Act as well as the repeal of the Sorcery Act in 2013.

In the hope that Papua New Guinea will continue to build upon these achievements, we would like to offer the following three recommendations:

1. Fully enforce the 2013 Family Protection Act, which criminalizes domestic and sexual violence and gives the police the power to arrest and prosecute perpetrators, as a matter of priority.
2. Take a holistic and effective approach to tackle gender-based violence which has been deemed as one of its key development challenges, including by strengthening accountability mechanisms; raising awareness on gender-based violence, and in particular, violence related to sorcery accusations; and allocating sufficient budget to support such programmes.
3. Step up its efforts to strengthen the capacity of the police in terms of both number of officers and quality of duty performed, with a view to preventing and

eliminating abuses, corruption and excessive use of force by police officers.

We hope that these recommendations will contribute to Papua New Guinea's continued efforts to further advance in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Thank you, Mr. President. /End/