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**27th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Mongolia’s statement at the Review of South Africa**

**10 May 2017**

Mr. President,

Mongolia joins others in welcoming the delegation of South Africa and expresses its appreciation for the presentation of the current national report.

We welcome the adoption of relevant legislations, in particular those aimed at preventing torture, combating trafficking in persons and ensuring protection of personal information. We would also like to note the adoption of the National Development Plan: Vision 2030 and the medium Term Strategic Framework to implement the NDP.

We commend that considerable efforts have been made to improve the socio-economic situation of all sectors of the society and bring about tangible improvements in the living standards of the population, including the establishment of the Urban Settlement Development Grant to provide housing to the targeted vulnerable groups.

However, there are still concerns with regard to gender-based and domestic violence. In this regard, we would like to recommend the Government of South Africa to reinforce its efforts to ensure thorough investigation and prosecution of crimes of gender-based and domestic violence and guarantee access to justice for victims.

Despite the significant advances made in ensuring the rights of the child, notably decrease in child mortality rate, improved birth registration, access to education for children with disabilities as well as access to social security, according to the UNICEF report the maltreatment and abuse of children still remains widespread. Therefore, Mongolia wishes to recommend South Africa to develop an independent child’s rights monitoring mechanism and allocate adequate financial resources to ensure effective implementation of the relevant international obligations.

In conclusion, we thank South Africa for its constructive engagement with the UPR process and wish a continued progress in promoting and protecting human rights.

Thank you.