

**Statement by the delegation of Nepal**

**44th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, 13 November 2023**

**09:00-12:30**

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**Mr. President,**

Nepal warmly welcomes the delegation of People’s Republic of Bangladesh to the fourth cycle of UPR.

We take encouraging note of Bangladesh’s remarkable progress in achieving gender equality in the country.

We welcome Bangladesh’s commitment to foster religious diversity and interfaith harmony and to this end, the pledge made at the International Conference on Freedom of Religion or Belief- 2022 to fund a monastery at the birth place of Buddha, in Lumbini, Nepal.

We appreciate the Government of Bangladesh for hosting a significant number of refugees on humanitarian ground.

In a cooperative spirit, we recommend the following:

1. Continue the efforts towards abolishment of child marriage.
2. Strengthen measures to upgrade its national human right institution to A category in line with the Paris Principles.

We wish Bangladesh a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President.