**Draft Statement of the Republic of Korea**

**The 45th Session of the UPR Working Group Review of the Congo**

**(Tuesday, 30 January 2024, 14:30-18:00)**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Congo to its fourth cycle of the UPR. We commend the Congo’s ongoing efforts to promote and protect women’s rights, including the adoption of the Mouebara Act aimed at combating violence against women. We also appreciate its initiatives to improve the quality and capacity of public health service, especially for maternal and child health.

In light of this progress, we would recommend the following:

1. Enhance measures to combat impunity for law enforcement officials, ensuring thorough investigations into allegations of torture and ill-treatment.
2. Step up its efforts to guarantee the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, including media freedom and the safety of journalists.
3. Take measures to incorporate a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women into its legislation and eliminate gender stereotypes, aligning with the recommendations of the CEDAW.

We wish the Congo a successful review.

I thank you.

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