

**Statement by Mr. Paras PANDIT, Minister Counsellor**

**48th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of the Gambia, 21 January 2025**

**9:00-12:30**

Time: 1 min

 Words: 124

**Mr. Vice-President,**

Nepal warmly welcomes the delegation of the Gambia to the fourth cycle of UPR and thanks them for the presentation of the report.

We welcome the ratification of Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

We appreciate the enactment of the National Social Protection Act 2024 as the first legal framework for social assistance for social service delivery.

We welcome the MOUs with neighbouring countries to combat cross-border human trafficking.

In a constructive spirit, we recommend Gambia the followings:

1. Continue effort to increase access to social protection.
2. Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

We wish Gambia a successful review.

I thank you.