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**Statement by the delegation of Nepal**

**39th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of Samoa 02 November 2021**

Time: 2 mins.

Words: 186

**Madam President,**

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

We appreciate Samoa for ratifying the Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and Convention against Torture.

We take positive note of the formulation of Community Development Sector Plan 2021-26 which promotes family and community safety particularly in sexual violence and ensuring resilience of communities to disasters and climate change.

The recently launched Samoa 2040 strategy which recognizes the indispensability of peace, security and inclusivity for achieving the aspirations of SDGs is noteworthy. We also appreciate Samoa’s initiative of establishing the SDG taskforce to coordinate the implementation, follow-up and reporting of the SDGs.

We take note that Samoa’s first National Security Policy launched in 2018 has identified domestic and gender-based violence and health security, as key national security concerns and priorities.

While expressing Samoa a successful UPR, we recommend them the following for their consideration:

1. Consider ratifying the ICERD and ICESCR.
2. Continue carrying community-based programmes aimed at preventing and tackling domestic violence, child abuse and sexual exploitation.

I thank you.