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**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION**

**TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**41st SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**Review of INDIA**

**10 november 2022**

**14H30**

**(55 secONDS)**

**speaker no: 76**

***Check against delivery***

Mr. President,

South Africa welcomes the distinguished delegation of India to this UPR Session and wishes the country a successful review.

In this regard, South Africa respectfully make the following recommendations;

* 1. that India ratify all the international instruments that it had signed and consider signing and ratifying those to which it was not yet a party, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (**ICPPED)** the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (**ICCPR)**, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
* that the Government ensure that all forms of ill-treatment of persons with disabilities constitute criminal offences, in line with the definition of torture in international law, that cases of torture and ill-treatment were investigated, prosecuted and the perpetrators sanctioned, and that redress was provided for persons with disabilities who were subjected to ill-treatment
* that the Government hold accountable public officials who advocate religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence.

Our delegation is encouraged by the notable progress India has made in ensuring universal access to affordable health care for all by adopting a three-pronged focus, namely universalisation, affordability and enhancing modern medical infrastructure

I thank you