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**Statement by the delegation of Nepal**

**42nd session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of Benin, 26 January 2023**

**09:00-12:30**

Time: 1 min 10 secs.

Words: 126

**Madam Vice-President,**

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

We welcome the incorporation of the abolition of death penalty into the Constitution of Benin.

The ratification of Optional Protocol to the CEDAW reflects Benin’s commitment to combating discrimination and violence against women and girls.

We appreciate Benin’s efforts in implementing National Development Plan for the inclusive and sustainable development.

While wishing Benin a successful fourth cycle review, Nepal recommends the following for their consideration:

1. Strengthen measures to eliminate harmful traditional practices and sexual and economic exploitation of women and children.
2. Continue efforts to improve school infrastructure and equipment and increase investment in the education sector.

I thank you Madam Vice-President.