

**Statement by India during the 42nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group Meeting (23rd January – 3rd February 2023)
4th UPR of Benin –Interactive Dialogue delivered by**

**Ms. Priyanka Chauhan, Ambassador & Deputy Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of India**

**[Geneva, 26th January 2023]**

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Benin and thanks them for the comprehensive presentation.

2. As a fellow member of the Human Rights Council, we appreciate Benin’s continued efforts in its commitment to promote and protect human rights through various inclusive and transparent reforms undertaken by them.

3. In the spirit of dialogue and constructive cooperation, India recommends the following to Benin:

* 1. Strengthen its National Human Rights Institution so that it is able to carry out its mandate independently and efficiently in line with Paris principles.
	2. Continue to take measures to combat Child Trafficking.
	3. Adopt a comprehensive strategy for prevention and elimination of child, early and forced marriages, paying particular attention on vulnerable adolescents, girls and women.

4. We wish Benin all success for its review.

Thank you, Mr. President.