**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE REVIEW OF THE UPR REPORT OF PAKISTAN AT THE 42ND SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**23 JANUARY-3 FEBRUARY 2023**

**30 JANUARY 2023- 09:00AM-12:30PM**

**Thank you Mr President,**

The Gambia is pleased to serve as Troika Member to prepare the concluding recommendations for Pakistan and warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Pakistan and thank them for their continued and constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

We wish to commend Pakistan’s prohibition of the employment of children and its enforcement of regular labour inspection in factories.

**Mr President,**

The Gambia would like to make the following recommendations to the delegation of Pakistan;

1. That Pakistan strengthens its efforts towards withdrawing its declaration made upon the accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

2. That Pakistan ensures the implementation of legislation on gender-based violence including domestic violence and acid attacks and strengthen prosecution mechanisms.

3. That Pakistan put in place mechanisms to address the high maternal mortality rate, forced sterilization of women with disabilities, and unsafe abortion practices.

**Mr President,**

In conclusion, The Gambia wishes the distinguished delegation of Pakistan a successful review and fruitful deliberations.

**Thank you.**