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**Statement by the delegation of Nepal on UPR of Madagascar**

**34th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**11 November 2019**

Mr. President,

Nepal warmly welcomes the delegation of Madagascar to the 3rd Cycle of UPR and thanks them for the presentation of national report highlighting important efforts made for the promotion and protection of human rights since the last review.

We welcome strengthening of the Independent Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles.

The ratification of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty is commendable.

It is encouraging to note that the General State Policy of Madagascar takes a devolvement vision of building a strong, prosperous and united country.

Nepal wishes Madagascar well in achieving desired results on poverty alleviation, free primary education as well as access to health care.

My delegation recommends the following for their consideration:

1. Intensify efforts to abolish child labor and combat all forms of exploitation of children.
2. Continue to strengthen measures aimed at eliminating discrimination against women and tackling gender-based violence.

We wish Madagascar a successful UPR.

Thank you.