

UPR WORKING GROUP - THIRTEENTH SESSION

(21 May - 4 June, 2012)

UPR of BAHRAIN - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

21 May 2012; 0900-1230 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Madam President,

India welcomes the delegation of Bahrain to their second review, starting off the second cycle of the most successful process of the Human Rights Council; the UPR.

2. We take positive note of the efforts made by the Government of Bahrain in implementing the recommendations and its voluntary commitments at the time of their last UPR, despite the many challenges including the recent political turbulence. In this regard, we welcome the launch of the National Action plan, establishment of a national model for integrating women's needs in the development path, and a National Human Rights Institution. We welcome the temporary measures taken to grant citizenship to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners and would recommend that Bahrain continues to take such measures until draft law amending the Nationality Law comes into effect.

3. We have also noted with interest the various initiatives undertaken by Bahrain through the passing of decrees and laws particularly those relating to foreign workers. We appreciate Bahrain's open attitude towards them. We are however concerned that some of these workers have had to face "travel bans" and sometimes loss of legal right to residence and work while being investigated for financial irregularity, before being proven guilty or otherwise. ***We recommend that Bahrain take necessary measures to address such issues so that the principles of natural justice are adhered to scrupulously.***

4. In conclusion, we commend Bahrain's efforts in implementing the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry and encourage it to further accelerate its efforts in this regard.

Thank you, Madam President.