

**UPR WORKING GROUP – FOURTEENTH SESSION
(22 OCTOBER – 5 NOVEMBER, 2012)**

**UPR OF GHANA – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE
23 October 2012: 1430 – 1800 hrs.**

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

President,

My delegation welcomes the delegation of Ghana led by Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Barton Oduro and thanks them for the National Report and its presentation. India and Ghana share historical ties whose foundation was laid by India's first Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, and Ghana's first President, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah.

2. As a developing country, India is aware of the challenges and constraints faced by Ghana in promoting and protecting the human rights in the country. We acknowledge the multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach adopted by Ghana to address its challenges. We note with appreciation the establishment of the Domestic Violence Secretariat in 2008, the National HIV Strategic Plan 2011-2015 and the efforts made to sensitise and raise awareness on discriminatory practices against women. We would urge the government of Ghana to expedite the passage of Right to Information Bill which will be another step in the positive direction.

3. India welcomes Ghana's ratification of the Convention on Right of Persons with Disabilities. Ghana was an exemplary first country to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. **India recommends Ghana to expedite the ratification of its Optional Protocols as well.**

4. Finally, we wish to express our appreciation for Ghana's tradition of commitment to human rights and encourage them to continue to do so. We wish them all success in this regard.

Thank you.
