

UPR of BOLIVIA - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

Feb 10, 2010; 1430-1730 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President, Minister for Institutional Transparency and Combating Corruption,

India welcomes the delegation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia led by H.E. Mrs. Nardy Suxo, and thanks them for the comprehensive National Report and presentation.

Mr President,

02. The situation of human rights in Bolivia must be viewed in the context of its rich cultural diversity as well as its political and social history, in particular the effort in recent years to establish a democratic and representative governance with highly participative mechanisms. In December 2009, Bolivia held successful general elections, after the entry into force of the new Constitution in February 2009.

03. The challenges facing the Government have since been enormous, including, *inter alia*, the implementation of the civil society agenda of 2003 and the setting up of the Constituent Assembly. The new Constitution adopted in 2009 has set forth wide-ranging individual as well as collective rights based on those outlined in universal human rights instruments, and clearly defines them. Further, the Ombudsman's Office, an independent institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles, has been mandated to ensure the observance and enforcement of all human rights under the Constitution, domestic law and international instruments to which Bolivia is party.

04. India takes positive note of Bolivia's National Human Rights Action Plan prepared in consultation with the civil society and the setting up of a National Human Rights Council to oversee the implementation and enforcement of the Action Plan. Notably, in 2009, the Action Plan was

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sent to the 327 municipal authorities for its integration into their own annual work plans.

05. The National Report has highlighted some of the challenges faced by the justice system and the Public Prosecutor's Office. My delegation requests the delegation of Bolivia for more information about the progress made with regard to judicial reforms. We request information on measures being taken by the Government to reduce high levels of poverty among the indigenous peoples. We also request additional information on legislative and administrative measures to address the problems of maternal mortality and sexual and reproductive health care.

Thank you, Mr. President.
