

**UPR WORKING GROUP – EIGHTH SESSION
(MAY 3-14, 2010)**

**UPR of GUINEA – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE
04 May 2010**

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Guinea led by H.E. Mr Bakary Fofana, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and Francophonie, and thanks the delegation for its presentation and National Report. We remain mindful of the numerous challenges and constraints faced by Guinea in the wake of social and political unrest in the country. We hope that the political process underway would facilitate a return to democracy through credible elections.

2. It is noteworthy that Guinea is party to a majority of international human rights treaties as well as the main regional and sub-regional instruments. We take positive note of Guinea's cooperation with the UN Human Rights mechanisms in the recent past and its ongoing efforts to secure the human rights of its citizens. We are further encouraged by Guinea's efforts to enhance public awareness of human rights.

3. We appreciate Guinea's efforts aimed at empowering rural women and tackling trafficking and Female Genital Mutilation. CEDAW has commended Guinea for undertaking various initiatives to improve women's health and the increase of the State budget allocated to the health sector.

4. We appreciate the Government's policy on the comprehensive development of young children, and the measures adopted to combat child trafficking. The progress made in securing the right to education is noteworthy, with substantial improvements in the enrolment, retention and

completion statistics, as also in budget for education. We particularly welcome the positive discrimination made in the favour of girl students.

Mr. President,

5. With the steady deterioration in Guinea's economy over the last decade, poverty remains the major obstacle to the protection of human rights, In this regard, we appreciate the Government's efforts to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers and to develop the outskirts of cities.

6. While we take note of the National Observatory for Democracy and Human Rights created in June 2008, we would encourage Guinea to establish an independent National Human Rights Institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles. We would also encourage Guinea to consider ratifying both the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Thank you, Mr. President.
